

2 Indians held in Feni

FENI, Apr 30: Two Indian citizens were arrested from a village in the Sadar yesterday (Thursday) for their illegal stays in Bangladesh, reports UNB.

The trespassers - Kumar Saha and Bidyut Saha - were identified as residents of Dinatali of Indian state of Tripura.

Acting on a tip-off, the Sadar police arrested them last night from village Rampur. They entered Bangladesh without any visas through the border area of Choudhagram thana three days ago.

Police, however, suspect that the trespassers are involved in smuggling.

One killed in road mishap

JAMALPUR, Apr 30: One person was killed and four others were injured when a truck and a tempo collided on Jamalpur-Sharshabari road at Kachashora in sadar thana on Thursday morning, reports UNB.

Police said, Babul, 25, was killed on the spot when a Sharshabari bound truck collided head on with a tempo coming from opposite direction at village Dighati.

The four injured passengers of the Jamalpur bound tempo received head injury and were admitted to Jamalpur General Hospital.

3 killed, two commit suicide

RANGPUR, Apr 30: Three people were killed and two others committed suicide including a woman in separate incidents during the last week in different thanas of the district, police and hospital sources said, reports UNB.

In one accident Tolla, a poor old man was crushed under the wheels of a speeding train while he was crossing the rail tracks near Badarganj Railway station in Badarganj thana recently.

On Saturday in Gangachara thana Akramul 42, a cycle rider was knocked down at Burierhat on Rangpur-Gangachara road when a truck from opposite direction hit his cycle.

In Saidpur village under Piragaha thana Lalee Begum, 24, a housewife allegedly took her life by taking poison on Sunday. Family quarrel is reported to be the cause behind the suicide.

Nasimuddin, 70, of Shariapara village in Pirganj thana also committed suicide by hanging himself from a tree. Family sources said Nasimuddin had long been suffering from a stomach pain.

Police on Monday recovered a body with several stab injury from a ditch at Kukral under Kotwali thana of the district.

Property worth Tk 30 lakh gutted

JHENIDAH, Apr 30: Property worth about Taka 30 lakh were gutted and six families were rendered homeless by a devastating fire in village Dalilpur in Saikupa thana of the district on April 21.

According to reports, the fire originated from a nearby stock of ashes and spread fast burning six tinshed houses, sixteen straw made homes.

The family members of Debar Biswas, Ansar Biswas, Sekender Biswas, Yusuf Munshi, Moslem Munshi, Moksad Ali and Motlob Ali could not save any things except their cloths they were wearing. Now they are homeless and passing their days under open sky.

Several posts at Food Department in Rangamati remain vacant

RANGAMATI, Apr 30: Twenty-five posts are lying vacant for a couple of years in the Food Department in Rangamati causing a virtual halt in normal functioning and supply of ration to the people of the district.

Posts of five thana controllers of food, six thana inspectors of food, three posts of assistant sub-inspectors of food, eight posts of guards and one post of gardener are lying vacant, officials said.

The normal functioning of the office of the District Controller of Food, Rangamati Hill District has been facing numerous complicity and multifarious problems in movement, storage and distribution of grains which has also crippled the development activities of the government, the sources alleged.

A considerable portion of development works being carried out in the thanas of the district is more or less dependent on the supply of grains in addition to the normal ration supply.

Aus production likely to suffer as draught in Jhenidah continues

From Our Correspondent

JHENIDAH, Apr 30: Continued draught, shortage of rain and disordered irrigation pumps are badly affecting the cultivation of Aus paddy and jute in six thanas of Jhenidah district.

According to reports, the number of irrigation pumps in the district are 20670, including 305 deep tubewells (DT), 20320 shallow tubewells and 45 power pumps.

Due to internal conflicts among the farmers and lack of spare parts at least 215 irrigation pumps went out of order long ago which includes, 80 deep tubewells, 131 shallow tubewells and four power pumps, a government report said.

But according to another

report the number of disordered irrigation pumps are more than 400. The continuous draught, has hit at least 102 non deep tubewells.

The district Agriculture Extension Department (AED) sources informed that they had repaired 82 machines so far. The AED sources also claimed that they have overcome the situation which was created by draught and the standing Boro paddy would not be affected.

When contacted some farmers said, to cover the loss incurred during Aman harvest during the monsoon they gave emphasis on Boro cultivation. But due to fertilizer crisis and continuous draught the production target may not be

achieved.

For continued draught the target of jute cultivation programme in the district is also likely to suffer a similar fate this season. In 1994-95 fiscal year the target of jute cultivation was on 10062 of land. In 1995-96 the target was fixed on 15530 hectares. But there was no rainfall in the month of 'Chaitra' and 'Baisakh'. Most of the crop land have developed cracks.

A source of AED informed that the agriculture calendar says 15th 'Chaitra' to 15th 'Baisakh' is the best period for cultivation of jute seedlings. But even on the eve of the period the farmers are not in a position to plough their land.

Photos of April 29 1991 cyclone on show

CHITTAGONG, Apr 30: A two-day photographic exhibition on devastating cyclone and tidal surge of April 29, 91 began at the Chittagong Press Club auditorium here on Friday, reports BSS.

President of Chittagong Press Club, Mohammad Idrees inaugurated the exhibition being held under the sponsorship of Rihri Apparel Industries Limited.

About one hundred photographs of a total of nine local photojournalists were put on display.



AGRI-VARSITY (Mymensingh): Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr. Shah Muhammad Farouk delivering his speech as Chief guest at the inaugural function of a two day seminar on Bangladesh Agriculture Under Free Market Economy held at the auditorium of Agricultural University, organized by Bangladesh Agricultural Economists Association.

Defaulting govt establishments hamper uplift effort

MADARIPUR, Apr 30: The development work of the Madaripur Pourashava is being hindered due to non-realization of poura taxes, reports UNB.

Pourashava sources said about Tk 75 lakh remained outstanding, and the government offices and establishments are main defaulters.

Pourashava chairman said, "realization of tax from the private sector is quite satisfactory but it is difficult to realise the same from the government offices and establishments."

He said after repeated reminder: the outstanding taxes of the government offices are yet to be realized and due to fund shortage many uplift activities are on the verge of closure.

Brickfields, kitchens devouring trees in Netrokona

NETROKONA, Apr 30: Trees are being felled indiscriminately as firewood in manufacturing bricks in the district threatening the ecological balance, reports UNB.

It is learnt that the number of brickfields in ten thanas of the district is over a hundred and the massive requirement of fuel in these brickfields is met locally by felling trees.

According to an estimate about 25 maunds of wood is needed to burn one thousand of bricks and as such the daily requirement of fuel in the brickfields is over 30,000 maunds of firewood.

Besides, a sizeable amount of firewood is being consumed in domestic purposes throughout the district.

3 lakh children die of diarrhoea every year

BARISAL, Apr 30: About three lakh children are dying every year of diarrhoeal diseases in the country, says UNB.

This was revealed in a day-long divisional workshop, organized by Control of Diarrhoeal Diseases (CDD) Department under Health Directorate here at the Technical Training Centre on Wednesday.

The speakers said one pound of human stool contaminates water in about 2.5 square miles. At least 28,000 metric tons of stool is being discharged in the country every day, a survey report said.

They said the countries water bodies — ponds, canals and rivers are subject to more or less contamination. The hanging latrines particularly in the southern part of the country is the main cause of water pollution and contamination, the speakers pointed out.

"But we are hopeful about

our performances of controlling diarrhoeal diseases in the southern region". Mirjaganj thana of Patuakhali district has already been declared as hanging latrine free area, the workshop maintained.

The use of such latrines are being discouraged and reduced gradually in other areas also.

Government is spending about Tk 3,000, crore every year to prevent the deadly disease.

The workshop was presided over by Divisional Health Director Dr Anisur Rahman while Divisional Commissioner MA Rashid was present as chief guest.

UNICEF Chief in Bangladesh of Health and Nutrition Sector Dr Eric Laroche, CDD Project Director Dr Asib Nasim, Divisional Family Welfare Director Tabirur Rahman attended the workshop as special guests.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Ministry of Food

Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka

No. MOF/Sec.10/Import/3/95/249

Dated: 29 April, 1995

International Tender Notice for Import of Wheat under EEP

Tenders in sealed cover are invited from bonafide traders for supply of about 200,000 Metric Tons of wheat in cash. The particulars of tenders are furnished below:

- a) Quantity : 200,000 M.T. (5% more or less at buyer's option). The quantity may be increased or decreased depending upon the situation.
- b) Basis : i) C&F (with lighterage on sellers account) basis for 15 June '95 shipment.
ii) Both FOB Stowed and Trimmed and C&F (with lighterage on sellers account) basis for 31 July '95 shipment.
- c) Mode of payment : Cash through L/C.
- d) Port of delivery : Chittagong and/or Mongla.
- e) Quality, class, grade & specification : Details given in the tender schedule.
- f) Country of origin : USA.
- g) Crop year : 1994-95 latest crop.
- h) Packing : Bulk.
- i) Date of shipment : 100,000 MT by 15th June '95 and 100,000 MT by 31 July 1995.
- j) Port of loading : Name of loading port/ports to be mentioned.
- k) Time and date of closing : 1100 hrs BST on 21-05-95.
- l) Time and date of opening : 1130 hrs BST on the same day.
- m) Validity of offer to be kept : Up to 1700 hrs BST on 27-05-95.

2. Offers in sealed cover addressed to the Secretary, Ministry of Food, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh must be submitted by intending tenderers in the tender box to be kept in the office chamber (Room No. 117, Building No. 4, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka) of Deputy Secretary (Procurement), Ministry of Food by 1100 hrs BST on 21-05-95. The tenders will be opened on the same day at 1130 hrs BST in the Conference Room of Ministry of Food (Room No. 104, Building No. 4, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka). Tenderers or their representatives may attend the same. The offer of tender must be accompanied by earnest money in the form of Bank Guarantee or Bank Draft/Pay Order in favour of the Secretary, Ministry of Food, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh equivalent to 1% (One per cent) of the total C&F price of the entire quantity offered. Further, on acceptance of tender a performance guarantee equivalent to 5% (Five per cent) of the value of the entire quantity shall have to be furnished within three days from the date of letter of intent.

3. Tender schedule containing instructions may be obtained during office hours of working days up to 20-05-95 from the undersigned by paying Tk 5,000 (Taka Five thousand) by Pay Order/Bank Draft drawn in favour of the Secretary, Ministry of Food, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. Instructions contained in these documents should be carefully read and adhered to. These document should also be submitted alongwith the offer being signed and sealed on each page. No tender schedule shall be sold on the date of closing of the tender.

4. Invitation of tenders does not in any way bind the govt to make any purchase from any intending supplier. Ministry of Food reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the offers without assigning any reason and also to reduce or divide the quantity among different suppliers.

Md Abul Hossain Mian
Senior Assistant Secretary
Ministry of Food
Phone: 23511-19/3035, 241920 (on request)

There will be few signs to recognise — Venice of the East

BARISAL, April 30: Once the greater Barisal district (Bakerganj) was known as 'Chandra Dweep', Barisal

was also called 'Venice of the East' for its natural beauties, zigzag canals and rivers, dark green woods and the vast picturesque landscape.

Many great souls like Mina Nath, Poet Bijoy Gupta, Poet Mukunda Das, Kamini Ray, Mahatma Aswini Kumar Datta, Sher-E-Bangla AK Fazlul Haq, Khan Bahadur Hashem Ali Khan, Poet Jibananda Das, Journalist Tofazzal Hossein Manik Mia, Abdul Gaffer Chowdhury, Saheed Moazzem Hossein, Saheed Mahiuddin Khan Jahangir and so many others were born in Barisal.

Barisal was declared as the 5th divisional headquarters of the country on January 1, 1993. With six southern districts Barisal, Patuakhali, Jhalakathi, Perajpur, Bhola, and Barguna. The division has 38 thanas, 323 unions, 3,237 villages, 11 pourasavas, 18 government colleges, 62 non government colleges, 1064 secondary school as well as 3,342 government and 856 non government primary schools.

Beside, there is one medical college, one cadet college, and two polytechnic institutions in Barisal district.

People of Barisal have been demanding a University, an Education Board, a Teachers' Training College, a TV relay station, a radio station and a full fledged airport here at Barisal town.

Meanwhile, a 10 kw medium wave radio station is about to be set up here. Further, construction of an airport is also nearing completion from where STOL service will connect the Capital with Barisal soon.

The greater Barisal District once called the 'Granary of Bengal' is now gradually turning dependent on supply of crops from other districts.

Sher-E-Bangla Medical College and Hospital is in Barisal located in the south-eastern part of Barisal town near the river Kirton Khola.

The college covers an area of about 77 acres of land including college, hospital, students' hostels and doctors' quarters.

The Barisal Medical College was established here at Barisal in early sixties following the decision of the then government to provide medicare to nearly a crore people of the southern region of the country.

Later on July 10, 1977 during the regime of the then President Ziaur Rahman Barisal Medical College was renamed as Sher-E-Bangla Medical College and Hospital after the name of the great leader of Bengal Sher-E-Bangla AK Fazlul Haq.

Hundreds of people died of diarrhoea three years ago in this southern region of the country. Following the diarrhoea epidemic in the region demand for setting up of a diarrhoea hospital and a saline making plant project at Barisal were raised. But that demands have not been met yet.

In Barisal Division there are nearly 1200 kilometers of roads of which only 275 kilometres are asphalt carpet while 165 kilometres of roads are herring bonded. Worst road communications are in the districts of Jhalakathi, Barguna, Perajpur.

Drinking water is still scarce in Barisal as well as other districts under this division. Though Barisal was included in the 5-district water supply project financed by for-

From Aroop Talukdar

seign donor agencies the poor performances by the contractors concerned eventually failed to provide better water supply to the Barisal town dwellers. Only 30 to 35 lakh gallons of water is being supplied against the requirement of at least 55 lakh gallons of water everyday for about 3.50 lakh people of Barisal divisional headquarters.

Drinking water supply, particularly in Bhola, Patuakhali and Barguna districts is the worst, local sources said.

of BIWTA is also located in Barisal. But due to lack of initiatives of the authority concerned, wrong decisions and so many other reasons this profitable workshop is losing acres of take every year.

Beside the Barisal Irrigation Project (BIP) works of which was started by 1975-76 financial year with an expenditure of nearly 35 crore taka with a view to boost crop production with a target to produce an additional 3.25 lakh tons of boro and *ufshi* paddy. But due to lack of proper management, and coordination, and negli-



BARISAL: The newly constructed municipal building of Barisal town. — Star photo

The supply system should be totally renovated.

Power supply is also very erratic and loadshedding seems to be very usual in this PDB zone. Where 40 to 45 mega watts of power is the least requirement for Barisal PDB zone the supply is not more than 25 to 30 MW a day. Worst affected are the people of Bhola and Barguna.

Not Many people know that the headquarters of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) is located in Barisal. The BIWATA head quarters is only in black and white. The actual works are done in the capital.

The only marine workshop

Feni PBS to install 200 km electric line

FENI, Apr 30: Feni Palli Bidyut Samity has undertaken a programme to install 200 kilometres electric lines in the district during the current fiscal year, reports UNB.

The Samity has already completed 75 per cent of the work by installing 151 kilometres of lines in the district, official sources said.

Whip of Jatiya Sangsad Mahbubul Alam Tara inaugurated a three and a half kilometres line at village Battali in sadar thana on April 16.



BARISAL: The T&T microwave tower at Barisal. — Star photo

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer (R&H)
Road Division, Laxmipur
Phone : 500

Tender Notice

Sealed tenders are invited through Bangladesh Form No. 2911.

1. Tender Notice No : E/L/116 year 1994-95.
2. Name of work : Construction of boundary wall of Ramganj Road Sub-Division office under Laxmipur Road Division during 1994-95 financial year.
Tk 6,13,742/89
3. Estimated cost : Tk 12,275/-
4. Earnest money : 45 (fortyfive) days
5. Prescribed time for completion of work
6. Eligibility of contractor : (R&H) Directorate enlisted "A" to "D" general class.
7. Offices where tender to be had at : Office of the undersigned/Executive Engineer (R&H), Comilla/ Chandpur/ Noakhali/B'baria/Planning Division (Road, Bridge), Dhaka/ Planning & Drawing Division, Comilla/Sub-Divisional Engineer (R&H), Road Sub-Division, Laxmipur/Ramganj.
8. Offices where tender to be received at : 1) Additional Chief Engineer (R&H), Comilla Zone, Comilla.
2) Superintending Engineer (R&H), Road Circle, Comilla.
3) Superintending Engineer (R&H) Monitoring & Evaluation Circle, Dhaka.
4) Executive Engineer (R&H), Road Division, Laxmipur.
07.05.95 up to office hours.
9. Last date & time of selling tender : 8.5.95 up to 12.30 pm.
10. Last date & time of receiving tender
11. Date & time of opening tender : 16.5.95 at 12.45 PM.

Md Habibur Rahman
Executive Engineer (R&H) (CR)
Road Division, Laxmipur
Phone: 500

DFP-10365-2/4/ G-680