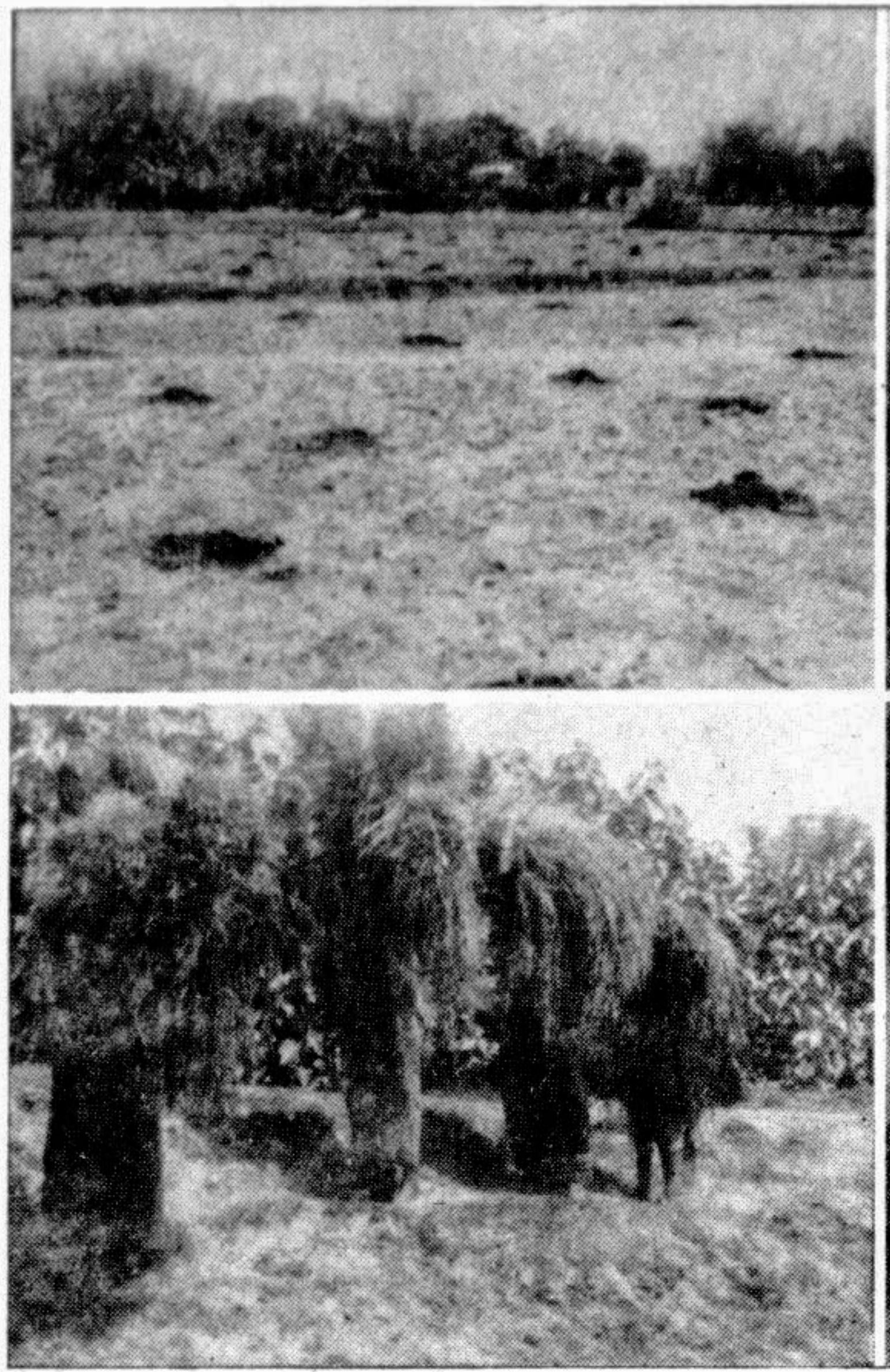


### Daring dacoity in Barisal: One shot dead

**From Staff Correspondent**  
**BARISAL, May 15:** One Jitu Talukder, 70, was shot dead on the spot and eleven others were injured when a gang of armed dacoits 25 to 30 in number committed dacoity in ten houses at Kalyan Kalash village under Galachipa thana of Patuakhali district Sunday midnight.  
 According to police and witnesses, the gang first swooped on the house of one Ismail Pahlan and looted all the valuables. Then they committed dacoities in the houses of Rashid Khan, Mobarak Mollah, Matleb Talukder, Nur Gazi and others.  
 During the time of dacoity when they were resisted by some people of these houses they suddenly opened fire. Jitu Talukder died on the spot and the others sustained bullet injuries.  
 Dacoits decamped with the booty including gold ornaments of about ten lakh taka.  
 Critically injured Ismail, 32, and Ibrahim, 20, were admitted to Galachipa Thana Health Complex.  
 A case has been filed.



**SHERPUR:** (From top left clockwise) Many farmers are now using cow-dung instead of chemical fertilizer, a paddy field in Madarpur village, housewives and children carrying harvested crop to their homes and traditional method of threshing paddy using draught animals. —Star photos

### Arms recovered in Jhenidah, 13 arrested

**From Our Correspondent**  
**JHENIDAH, May 15:** Jhenidah police recently arrested 13 persons and recovered arms and ammunition from different places of the district.  
 Police sources said acting on a secret information, a contingent of police led by the officer in charge, Jhenidah Police Station Md. Yunus Ali raided village Marandi in sadar thana at 2 pm and arrested Shahidul and Saiful of Jatrapur, and Sajedur Rahman and Masud Rana of Dhanbaria.  
 The arrested persons are suspected to be the members of outlawed Sarbahara Party. They were preparing for a party meeting, police said.  
 Another report says, detective branch of police arrested five microbuses and recovered a microbus and three counterfeit notes from them.  
 According to police sources, Seikh Abdul Wahab, Inspector of Detective Branch (DB) raided a house at village Bhutargati in Jhenidah and arrested three persons — Abdul Gaffar alias Nantu, Abdul Malek and Mofazzel Hossain.  
 Police also arrested Amareh Das from Halidhant Bazar with three counterfeit notes of Taka five hundred denomination.  
 Mohespur police also arrested two activists of outlawed Purbabangla Communist Party and recovered a pipegun and two rounds of bullets recently.  
 Police sources said, acting on a secret information police raided a house at village Mailmari in Mohespur thana and arrested Abdul Jalil and Shah Alam.  
 Sailkupa thana police arrested one Osman Ghani from Khumbaria in Sailkupa thana recently in connection with a theft in a medicine shop.

### One arrested with arms

**SATKHIRA, May 15:** Ashashuni thana police arrested a man with a pistol and seven rounds of bullets from Budhata bazar on Friday, reports UNB.  
 The arrested was identified as Thakur Das of village Thalna in Kaliganj thana of the district.  
 A case has been filed and further investigation is on.

## Severe poverty prevents children from attending schools

**From Our Correspondent**  
**BRAHMANBARIA, May 15:** Lack of proper environment and motivation has forced some poor guardians to show reluctance in sending their children to primary schools, particularly at Shahzadapur union under Sarail thana of the district.  
 Most of the villagers of Shahzadapur union are farmers. They take away their children from the schools and engage them as farm labourers during the peak time of the harvesting period. The parents encourage their children to work in the field.  
 On the other hand, some children who are very poor do not go to schools at all. They work as day labourers for a nominal wage.  
 In order to earn their livelihood, they are compelled to work in the fields, hotels, restaurants, motor garages, welding workshops, grocery shops and at homes as servants. Though the income of the children is meagre it helps their families. Parents felt it is better for their families to send the children to work in the fields instead of sending them to schools.  
 Most of the inhabitants of Shahzadapur village are very poor and illiterate. The people are not aware of the significance of education and neither they have the ability to pursue children's education.  
 Tunji, a maid-servant aged 12, daughter of a day labourer Hasim, told this correspondent that her parents and all three brothers are illiterate. Her parents never encouraged them to go to school. Once she tried to be admitted into a Proshika-run school but her father and mother did not allow her. She said that her younger brother was very much eager to go to school but he had no cloths. Her elder brothers are day labourers and her mother is a housemaid.  
 Marufa Begum, a college student, said that she has been struggling to pursue her education. Her father died of TB and her only brother Mono Mia is a day labourer. She also works in a Proshika school in order to earn a living.  
 Mariam Begum a teacher of Shahzadapur non-government primary schools informed this correspondent that most of the students of her school belong to very poor families. They leave the school during the harvesting period. Seikh Muhammad Nurul Islam, a local elite said that due to frequent natural calamities from 1988 to 1995, most of the people of this village are passing a very hard time.  
 S K Md Nurul Islam, a member of the managing committee of the West Shahzadapur government primary school said they have been trying to motivate people for education. To ensure education for all children, Food for education programme should be introduced here immediately, he said.

## Manifold problems grip fishermen in Chuadanga

**From Our Correspondent**  
**CHUADANGA, May 15:** Hundreds of fishermen of four thanas of Chuadanga district have been facing manifold problems for a long time. Shortage of nets, boats, as well as abuse of fishermen's cooperative societies funds by a section of influential people and price hike of fishing equipment, has brought the profession on verge of ruination.  
 The ever increasing unplanned irrigation projects have aggravated the situation. The indiscriminate fishing by the non-professionals is also posing a threat to the fish resource.  
 The fishermen alleged that scarcity of fish and other problems forced them to quit the profession. The fishermen are also being deprived of getting a lease on water bodies.  
 There is a provision to lease water-bodies to the genuine fishermen. This system only exists in paper, except some rare cases. Some *Ijaradars* in collusion with the local authority are giving sub-lease to some fake fishermen. Even the real fishermen cannot fish normally even after getting lease in most-cases. The non-professionals catch fish by force and even take away the nets and other fishing equipment of the fishermen. The fishermen allege that they do not get proper treatment after informing the law enforcing agencies.  
 Lack of necessary funds has made the poor fishermen unable to purchase their fishing appliances like nets, and boats.  
 The high price of nylon and high charge of the carpenters and labourers have attributed much to their financial constraints.  
 The fishermen are to borrow money from local *mahajans* at a high rate of interest which is also one of the causes of their sufferings.

## Most rivers in Jamalpur drying up

**From Our Correspondent**  
**JAMALPUR, May 14:** The rivers Brahmaputra, Jhenai, Jheengram, Kangsha and a part of Jamuna in greater Jamalpur district have almost dried up. As a result irrigation and supply of drinking water has been hit hard.  
 The mighty Brahmaputra is turning into a canal due to rapid siltation. It has lost its flow from its source in the eastern Himalayas down to its mouth.  
 From Dewanganj, Nalitabari, Jamalpur and Mymensingh to Bhairab Bazar where the rivers meet Meghna, thousands of shoals and sand banks have been created in the rivers.  
 On the numerous shoals, farmers grow paddy, wheat, ground nut, pulses, beans and pumpkins.  
 During the dry season people cross the Brahmaputra on feet. A brisk business is being carried out — digging the sand of the shoals and dumping that on the bank for sale. Farmers plant transplanted boro on the sand banks.  
 M A Jallil, a day labourer at Nandina Bazar area, under Jamalpur sadar thana said he along with other colleagues come down to the Brahmaputra every day to dig sand which provides him means of living. He earns Taka 55 a day. He said the river along Dewanganj, Nalitabari, Sherpur, Jamalpur, Nandina, Begunbari, Nurundir-Raipur, Biddaganj and Mymensingh is drying up.  
 The present picture of the Brahmaputra river is grave. Ferry services of Jhenal cross connection, Jamalpur-Sherpur, and Bahadurabad-Chilmarghat, Bahadurabadghat-Shanadhabari-Bogra-Shaakandi via Madarganj is still remain suspended due to fall in water level.  
 Railway ferry services between Jagannathganj-Sirajganj ghat is also suspended. Meanwhile, about 40 to 50 per cent shallow tubewells have been rendered inoperative causing serious crisis in irrigation.  
 Farmers are facing uncertainty in cultivating IRRI-boro this season due to lack of adequate irrigation water.  
 Meanwhile, desertification process has already started in the northern region due to ecological imbalance and environmental degradation caused by the adverse effects of the Farakka.  
 Due to abnormal fall of the flow of the Ganges at least fifty big and small rivers including mighty Brahmaputra have now become *char* lands.

## One third posts lying vacant in Patuakhali College

**PATUAKHALI, May 15:** Some 31 posts, out of the total 89 posts of teachers of Patuakhali Government University College, have been lying vacant for a long time, reports UNB.  
 As a result, education is being hampered in the college, the only institution of higher education in greater Patuakhali district.  
 The number of vacant posts in different departments are: Bengali-one, English-2, Economics-3, Political Science-2, History-2, Islamic History and Philosophy-2, Arabic and Islamic Studies-one, Accounting-6, Management-2, Physics-2, Chemistry-2, Mathematics-2, Zoology-2 and Soil Science-2.  
 Students and teachers of the college urged the authority to take immediate steps to appoint new teachers.

## Serious crisis of drinking water in Barisal town

**From Staff Correspondent**  
**BARISAL, May 15:** Drinking water crisis is increasing very fast in the Barisal divisional headquarters.  
 Crisis of drinking water is increasing, according to different sources, as the population of this divisional headquarters is rapidly increasing. Offices, shops and several types of small industrial units have also increased with the growth of population.  
 Lack of initiatives and proper planning of the concerned authority is also liable for the failure of supplying drinking water to nearly 3.5 lakh people of the town.  
 Superintendent Engineer, Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) in Barisal told The Daily Star that, the matter now lies with the Barisal Pourashava, as the PHED has already handed over the responsibility of supplying drinking water.  
 When contacted, the Pourashava authorities said that they are trying their best to overcome the situation. Faulty works by contractors in five districts water supply project in some sectors has created troubles, they added.  
 Currently, the pourashava can supply less than half of the daily requirement.  
 As against the required supply of nearly 60 lakh gallons per day (GPD), only 20 to 25 lakh (GPD) is being supplied of which 15 to 20 per cent is being wasted for several reasons.  
 The Five District Water Supply Project was implemented in Barisal in 1990 with the financial assistance of Asian Development Bank (ADB) with an expenditure of nearly 18 crore taka. Under this project, five overhead water tanks, 12 deep tubewells and 80 kilometers of water supply pipelines were constructed in Barisal.  
 But it is alleged that due to the contractors' faulty works many problems have arisen when the project started functioning. Major faults were detected in the pump houses and in the new pipe lines.  
 In this regard they mentioned that in 1962 a light irrigation project was launched in this area and the farmers were sharing the irrigation water. But due to lack of maintenance and care the project has lost its utility.  
 So far, out of the 16 old and new pump houses, two to three pump houses are not at all working.  
 Earlier, two deep tubewells were regenerated but that helps a little.  
 Now, with the increasing pressure of population growth and urbanisation process in Barisal town area, supply of drinking water has not desirably increased. Furthermore, a canal which provided water for all sorts of household works to the residents of the town, has almost dried up. If this canal can be re-excavated many people would be benefited, informed sources said.

## Farmers demand regulator over Tulsiganga river

**JOYPURHAT, May 15:** Farmers of Mohitpur of Panchbibi thana in the district have long been demanding for a regulator over the Tulsiganga river to facilitate irrigation, reports UNB.  
 According to agri experts, with the setting up of the regulator, it would be possible to bring 500 acres of additional land under irri-boro cultivation and additional 30,000 mounds of paddy worth Tk 66 lakh would also be produced in the area.  
 The production capacity of per acre land of this area is 60 mounds. Farmers said the land of Mohitpur is red and its water absorbing power is very poor. But bumper production is possible, they said, through irrigation facilities which is not possible in the absence of a regulator over the Tulsiganga river.



**Dhaka City Corporation**

আপনার পরিবেশ সুন্দর ও পরিষ্কার রাখুন;  
আপনার শিককে টিকা দিন

## Tender Notice

Sealed tenders are hereby invited in Bangladesh form No. 2911 from bonafide enlisted contractors of Dhaka City Corporation for the undermentioned works and will be received by the all Zone Offices of Dhaka City Corporation up to 12.00 Noon on 22/5/1995 and will be opened by the respective officer on the same day at 12.30 PM in presence of the tenderers or their representatives who may choose to attend. Earnest Money shown against the work shall have to furnished along with tender in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order from any scheduled Bank in favour of the Mayor, Dhaka City Corporation.

Tender documents may be obtained from the Office of the Zone Offices of Dhaka City Corporation and Chashier of Accounts Section on payment of requisite amount by challan (non-refundable) mentioned against each work. Detailed information may be obtained from the office of the Executive Engineer, Zone-1 (Saidabad) during the office hours.

The rate should be quoted both in words and in figures on the basis of percentage above or below the estimated amount of the schedule of item of works otherwise the tender will be treated as cancelled. Analysis will be submitted along with tender by the tenderer those who submitted their tender 5% (five) or below the estimated rate. Double earnest money should be furnished if the quoted rate is below 5% (five).

No tender paper will be sold on the date of opening of the tender. The authority reserves the full right to accept or to reject any or all the tenders without showing any reasons thereof.

Sl. No.	Name of work.	Estimated amount.	Earnest money	Time of completion
1.	Integrated Slum Improvement Programme to Wari cleaner's colony.	Tk. 16,83,616/-	Tk. 50,509/-	105 days.

**Executive Engineer**  
Zone-1 (Saidabad)  
Dhaka City Corporation

ডিএসপি/সিএম/এস/১৬/৯৫-৯৫  
D-490

## 150 schools to be built in four dists

**From Our Correspondent**  
**JHENIDAH, May 15:** A total of 150 secondary schools and 35 dakhil madrasahs will be constructed in four districts of greater Jessore district in the current fiscal year.  
 According to a source of Education Department, facilities department will construct 56 schools in Jhenidah district, 39 schools in Jessore district, 43 schools in Narail district and 12 schools in Magura district of a cost of Taka 12 crore.  
 The source also said that the facilities department will construct eight madrasahs in Jhenidah district, 13 madrasahs in Jessore district, three madrasahs in Narail district and 11 madrasahs in Magura district at a cost of Taka three crore.  
 The construction works is expected to be completed by September this year, the source said.

**Government of Bangladesh**  
**Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD**  
 Road Division, Patuakhali.

## Invited Tender Notice with sealed cover from Bangladesh Form No. 2911.

**Tender No. PRD 38/1994-95.**

Gr. No.	Name of work.	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Eligibility of contractors of RHD	Time allowed from the date of order	Date of last selling	Last date & time of receipt (with sealed)	Last date & time of opening	Name of Offices availability of tender document	Name of Offices to receiving of bids
1)	Construction of Flexible pavement at 31st (part) and 32nd (part) KM of Patuakhali-Amal-Barguna-Kakchira Road under Patuakhali Road Division during the year 1994-95.	Tk. 28,71,566/-	Tk. 57,431/-	'A' to 'C' (General)	70 days	22.5.95	23.5.95 up to 12-30 PM	25.5.95 up to 11-00 AM	Executive Engineer, RHD, Planning Division (Road & Bridge), Dhaka/ Planning & Design Division, Barisal/ Road Division, Barisal/ Bholaperpur/the undersigned and all Sub-Divisional Engineer, RHD, under Patuakhali Road Division.	1) Additional Chief Engineer, RHD, Barisal Zone, Barisal. 2) Superintendent Engineer, RHD, Barisal Circle. 3) Superintendent Engineer, RHD, Monitoring & Evaluation Circle (Road & Bridge) Dhaka. 4) The Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division Barisal/ Bholaperpur. 5) The undersigned.
2)	Construction of Flexible pavement at 32nd (part) & 33rd (part) KM of Patuakhali-Amal-Barguna-Kakchira Road under Patuakhali Road Division during the year 1994-95.	Tk. 28,57,786/-	Tk. 57,156/-	'A' to 'D' (General)	70 days	—	—	—	—	—

DPP-11761-75  
G-756

**A K M Reazul Islam**  
Executive Engineer, RHD,  
Patuakhali Road Division,  
Patuakhali.