

Ghanis on verge of extinction

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, Nov 11: Hand operated mini oil mills popularly known as 'Ghani' are on verge of extinction due to manifold problems including government patronisation and failing to compete with mechanised oil mills.

In was learnt that about 10,000 people of nine thanas in Sirajganj district were in 'Ghani' profession. Following mushroom growth of mechanised oil mills, the 'Ghani' are on verge of extinction. The Ghani are run by manpower and cattleheads. About 13 kilograms of oil could be collected by crushing 40 kgs of oil seeds.

Besides, this sector does not get any government patronisation including bank loans. Edible oil produced in the machines are comparatively cheaper than the Ghani products.

In the past the Ghani owner supplied mustard oil in the villages by vendoring. They were in the profession hereditarily. Failing to com-

pete the machines, 80 per cent of the Ghani have been closed down in Sirajganj district and the professional oil men have changed this traditional profession.

While visited some village areas in Kazipur, Belkuchi and Kamarkhanda thanas recently in search of 'Ghani', it was observed that the professional oil men are now selling edible oil as the agents of mechanised oil mills. In remote village areas, machine products are sold by professional oilmen in disguise of 'Ghani' products.

When contacted, once famous, Ghani owners told this correspondent that no bank loan is available for this sector of age-old cottage industry. Some 'ghani' were found running in village Chala and Garamashi in Belkuchi thana.

The concerned owners told that a number of selected customers are still purchasing their oil. But the number of such customers are decreasing day-by-day.

To facilitate handling of more cargo Working hours in all offices at Benapole Port increased

From Atiur Rahman

JESSORE, Nov 11: In a bid to protect export-oriented garment industry from ruination in the country, working hours per day in all offices at Benapole Port have been increased by additional five hours more recently, this decision was taken by local authority, said a source. The decision came into effect from October 29 last.

According to information progress in business activities in the port offices is now almost double particularly in cargo handling, off-loading and shipment. All these account for this new decision, said another source. It was reported that Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) has urged upon opposition parties to keep Benapole Port outside the purview of hartal.

It may be mentioned here that lions share quantity of raw-materials including cloth, yarn and other inputs needed for garment manufacturing are imported from India through Benapole Port.

According to unofficial statistics, nearly two hundred trucks carrying imported cargo, leave Benapole for different places in the country every day. This is not enough, said one trader. But on the other hand, it is impossible for both the Customs and Port Authority personnel to release loaded trucks more than this number daily with their limited manpower and resources.

Reports received from various sources indicate that most of the time huge number of loaded trucks carrying imported goods remain stranded on the other side in India following heavy rush of trucks awaiting off-loading at Benapole. Against this backdrop, the industries that depend on raw-materials imported from India are suffering immense financial losses. It was also alleged that lack of capacity of Port Authority to release imported cargo on priority basis generates problem for importers compelling to pay penalties in the form of extra payment for warehouse and truck charges for no fault of their own.

Besides, frequent hartals called by the opposition parties have aggravated the situation and delivery of raw-materials from the port on priority basis has become most irregular, a source informed.

There is no denying the fact that extension of daily working hours till 10 pm at the port has brought some positive results for these offices. But no material benefit has been obtained yet as their Indian counterparts were still maintaining their normal office hours. The time of office-hours has only been extended in Bangladesh side of Benapole Port effective from October 29 last.

A new problem has emerged on Indian side at Bongaon, Sub-Divisional Headquarters of North 24 Parganas district. A group of labour union workers is allegedly obstructing movement of any traffic, not to speak of loaded trucks, towards Benapole Port after sunset. This has been their daily routine, reports reaching Jessore say. This device of the labour union group is also hampering easy and regular import of raw materials including gangli cloth for hosiery industry. It was reported that all raw-materials worth Taka seventy-five lakh, being imported by a dying and printing factory named Rahim Textile, have been held up in the truck-jam on Indian side recently. Rahim Textile supplies clothes to export oriented government industries in the country and other raw-materials to hosiery industries in Narayanganj, the source added.

Incidentally, State Minister for shipping, Shahjahan Siraj visited Benapole land port on Nov 2 last to acquaint himself of the problems the importers were facing. During discussion with importers, C&F agents and local leaders he directed the concerned authority to arrange immediate shipment of yarn, garment making cloths, besides the perishable goods. This may defuse the truck jam on the other side. He assured of taking up the problems with Indian authority, the source said.

On October 1 a pedestrian named Anil Chandra Devnath was run over by a three wheeler motor bike, mishuk near village Gashnagar of Moulvibazar. Raviya Ghatol, 35, a nightguard of Samanbhag Tea Garden was electrocuted and the body of Nuruzaman was recovered from Sarighat of Jaintapur thana.

On October 2 Anwara Begum, 25, of village Rajindrapur under Biswambharpur thana in Sunamganj committed suicide. On October 3 the body of Birendra Biswas, 50 was recovered from Sachna haor of Biswambharpur thana. Shaokat Ali, 50, of village Karinapur under Balumbul thana was killed in the hands of assailants on the same day.

On October 4 Misir Bibi, 50, was run over by a speeding minibus at Tetli area of Sylhet. On October 5 Lokman Miah, 24, of village Deulgram under Komolganj thana of Moulvibazar district was killed in the hands of assailants.

An unknown person was run over and killed on the Gowal bridge in Kularua thana under Moulvibazar district on October 6. A ten year old boy, Mahfuzur Rahman of village Sridhara under Beani-bazar thana in Sylhet was electrocuted while Abdul Motin, 40, was run over on Gawai bridge of Kularua thana and an unknown man fell under the wheels of running train near Kularua.

The body of Asma Begum, 20, was found hanging and was recovered by the police from Chuli Bander area of Sylhet sadar, on October 9. On the same day Jamshed Ali, 35, was killed in the hands of his cousin brothers at village Bachhaipur of Sylhet sadar thana. An unknown boy was crushed under the wheels of a speeding minibus at Sherpur of Nabiganj thana under Habiganj district on October 10. Sixteen year boy Dulal Ahmed was killed in the hands of opponent group at village Khagal under Companiganj thana on October 11. Abdus Sobhan, 60, of village Bakartpur under Bani-

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42 UD cases recorded in Sylhet last month

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, Nov 11: There were atleast reports of 42 unnatural deaths (UD) in Sylhet Division during the last month recorded in different Police Stations. Of the total, 19 were killed in road mishaps, 8 were killed in the hands of opponent groups, 3 were electrocuted and 3 committed suicide. Two drowned, one died of dog bite, one by taking poisonous wine and another mysteriously died.

On October 1 a pedestrian named Anil Chandra Devnath was run over by a three wheeler motor bike, mishuk near village Gashnagar of Moulvibazar. Raviya Ghatol, 35, a nightguard of Samanbhag Tea Garden was electrocuted and the body of Nuruzaman was recovered from Sarighat of Jaintapur thana.

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Sixteen year boy Dulal Ahmed was killed in the hands of opponent group at village Khagal under Companiganj thana on October 11. Abdus Sobhan, 60, of village Bakartpur under Bani-

achang thana of Habiganj district was bitten by a pye-dog and died on October 14. On the same day Shaym Charam of Jagannathpur village under Nabiganj thana took poisonous wine and died.

Eight year old boy Abdul Karim was beaten to death at village Islampur of Sylhet sadar on October 15 when Hasina Begum, 23, died mysteriously at Sheikhghat area of Sylhet town.

The body of Nozir Ali, was found at his father-in-law's house at village Satkpur under Biswanath thana on October 18. Mihir Dey, 34, was killed in a truck-tempo collision at Lalabazar on October 19. The body of a new born child was recovered from Sheikhghat area of Sylhet on October 21. On the same day one Giasuddin, 25, was run over and killed by a speeding minibus near Sherpur.

Twelve-year old boy Jahangir was also run over by minibus near Chhatka Paper & Pulp Mill on October 24.

The tragic train accident that took place near Satgaon railway station caused the death of 5 passengers on October 25. The victims were identified as Jalal Ahmed, 45, Giasuddin, 55, Badrunessa Khatun, 60, Selina, 10, and another unknown. A seven year girl Ayesha and Akul Mondy Dey, 70, were killed on the same day on Sunamganj road. Ayesha was run over by Minibus while Akul Mondy was hit by a motor cycle.

On October 26 Jitendra Sabdaker, 35, was killed when a speeding tempo skidded off into a roadside ditch when a four-year child fell under the earthen dwelling at village Kaleza of Moulvibazar.

Abdul Gulebear was killed in the hands of opponent group at village Kashkanokpur under Gakiganj thana of Sylhet district on October 27. A youngman, Giasuddin, 20, was electrocuted on the same day at Bagbari area in Sylhet town.

A 10-year old boy, Shah Alam was crushed by a speeding minibus on October 28. On the same day Abdun Noor of village Barachar under Habiganj thana was killed by rival group.

Two minor children, Selina, 16, and Samirun, 8, were drowned in their family pond at village Barkatpur of Nabiganj thana on October 29.

Babul, 18, committed suicide at village Nayagram under Beani-bazar thana on October 30. An alleged Burglar, Mobarak Ali, 42, was beaten to death by the angry mob when he was caught red-handed while looting at village Chatigarm of Kanaighat thana.

মংলা বন্দর কর্তৃপক্ষ
প্রধান প্রকৌশলী (খাঃ ও তঃ) এর দপ্তর
মংলা, বাণেশ্বর
নং-মবক/ডিসিই/এমএডই/১১৫/৯৫
দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি
নিম্নবর্ণিত কাজের জন্য বৈধ এনিসি লাইসেন্সধারী মংলা বন্দর কর্তৃপক্ষের 'এ' শ্রেণী তালিকাভুক্ত বৈদ্যুতিক ঠিকাদার (যাহাদের প্রতিষ্ঠানে কমপক্ষে ১০ বছরের অভিজ্ঞতাসম্পন্ন হাতক তড়িৎ প্রকৌশলী কর্মরত আছেন) সহ উক্ত কাজে অভিজ্ঞতাসম্পন্ন অন্যান্য প্রতিষ্ঠান/ঠিকাদারদের নিকট হইতে বাংলাদেশ ফর্ম নং ২৯১১ এ সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আহবান করা যাইতেছে-

Govt of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
PWD E/M Division-VII,
Sher-e-Banglanagar, Dhaka
Memo No E/M-7-126/1728 Dated, Dhaka 31.10.95
Notice Inviting Tender
No 35/1995-96
Tenders under sealed cover for the undermentioned work are hereby invited in Bangladesh Form No 2911 from PWD enlisted special Class/1st Class E/M Contractor/Lift manufacturer or their local agents having experience in successful completion of supply, installation, testing and commissioning i/e maintenance of minimum 1 No (One) of 3 stop 100 kg lifts for at least One (1) year and also having VAT registration.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয়
এলজিইডি, চাঁদপুর-৩৬০০
তারিখঃ ৩১-১০-৯৫ইং
এলজিইডি (চাঁদপুর) দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি
নং-০৩/৯৫-৯৬
এতদ্বারা ১৯৯৫-৯৬ অর্থ বৎসরের চাঁদপুর জেলাধীন পল্লী অবকাঠামো রক্ষণাবেক্ষণ কর্মসূচীর নিম্নে বর্ণিত কর্মসূচীর বাস্তবায়নের জন্য এলজিইডির তালিকাভুক্ত ও বিভিন্ন প্রকল্পের পূর্বযোগ্যতাসম্পন্ন ঠিকাদার/ঠিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হইতে বাংলাদেশ ফর্ম নং ২৯১১তে সীলমোহরকৃত খামে আইটেমওয়ারী দরপত্র আহবান করা যাইতেছে।

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নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয়, স্থানীয় সরকার প্রকৌশল অধিদপ্তর
শ্রেণীভিত্তিক রোড, ইসনাইর, নারায়ণপল্ল
তারিখঃ ০২/১১/৯৫ইং
দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি
নং-১২/১৯৯৫-৯৬
এতদ্বারা স্থানীয় সরকার প্রকৌশল অধিদপ্তরের অধীন রাজস্ব বাজেটের আওতাধীন পল্লী অবকাঠামো রক্ষণাবেক্ষণ কর্মসূচীর অধীন ১৯৯৫-৯৬ইং অর্থ বৎসরে গৃহীত নারায়ণপল্ল জেলার নিম্নলিখিত প্রকল্পসমূহের বাস্তবায়নের জন্য স্থানীয় সরকার প্রকৌশল অধিদপ্তরের তালিকাভুক্ত ঠিকাদার/ঠিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠান এবং প্রকল্পের পূর্বযোগ্যতাসম্পন্ন ঠিকাদারগণের নিকট হইতে বাংলাদেশ ফর্ম নং ২৯১১তে সীলমোহরকৃত খামে দরপত্র আহবান করা যাইতেছে।