

# Rapid fall in water level, shoals emerge Navigation in Jamuna, Brahmaputra, may soon face suspension

From Our Correspondent

JAMALPUR, Dec 24: Rapid fall in the water level of the major rivers in the northern districts and emergence of charlands have seriously affected the navigation particularly in the rivers Jamuna and Brahmaputra.

Innumerable chas (shoals) have already emerged at different places in the Jamuna, Brahmaputra, Ganges, Ghena, Jherjira and Lujang due to heavy siltation.

An official source informed that an additional sum of over Taka one lakh is required for maintaining navigability of vessels every day.

According to Bangladesh Water Development Board sources, water level recorded in the Brahmaputra at Dewanganj and in the Jamuna at Jagannathganj ghat are lower than the requirement.

The BWDB sources said that eight feet layer of silt had been deposited in the Brahmaputra at Bahadurabad and 12 feet layer in the Jamuna at Jagannathganj ghat. It is thus clear that those

points of the rivers are no longer navigable.

It is apprehended that in coming lean period ground and surface water levels will further go down seriously affecting the ecological balance and causing crisis in the availability of water for both drinking and irrigation purposes.

The water transport including Ferries and launches plying between Jagannathganjghat-Serajganjghat, Bahadurabadghat-Teestamukhghat, Bahadurabadghat-Chilmari, Bahadurabadghat-Shanandbari, and Bahijuri-Shaiaikandi are to cover additional distance of three to four miles to reach destinations due to elevated beds at the rivers Jamuna, Ganges and Brahmaputra.

Besides, movement at water vessels through the narrow passage near Kafuler char, Kalasuna, Fulfuler char, Bulbuler char, four miles upstream from Bahadurabad is about to be abandoned.

No water transport measuring over seven feet draft

are plying on this route.

It is learnt that the BIWTA has undertaken plan for dredging of the river Jamuna.

Two dredgers are continuing dredging at different points of Bahadurabadghat-Teestamukh ghat river routes.

At present over one hundred boats have been playing on different routes of the district.

It is learnt that the country boats have monopolised about 140 miles long rivers routes.

It can be mentioned here that over 400 charlands are still visible throughout 140 mile long river routes which are hindering the movement of IWTA ferries and railway ferries.

A source of BWDB informed that record number of shoals have been formed in the river beds. Consequently navigation may be totally stopped during the ensuring season.

It can also be mentioned here that the large scale use of shallow tubewell engines in the country boats have been hampering the irrigation facilities in the northern districts.

Chilmari route may be disrupted and ultimately the distribution of essential merchandise including fertilizer, fuel, and other goods to the northern districts will be forced to stop.

Over 300 railway wagon with different kinds of goods are lying at Bahadurabadghat and Dewanganj railway stations due to suspension of ferry services.

Meanwhile, engine driven

country boats have become the main riverine transport for carrying passengers and merchandise goods in the routes.

At present over one hundred boats have been playing on different routes of the district.

It is learnt that the country boats have monopolised about 140 miles long rivers routes.

It can be mentioned here that over 400 charlands are still visible throughout 140 mile long river routes which are hindering the movement of IWTA ferries and railway ferries.

A source of BWDB informed that record number of shoals have been formed in the river beds. Consequently navigation may be totally stopped during the ensuring season.

It can also be mentioned here that the large scale use of shallow tubewell engines in the country boats have been hampering the irrigation facilities in the northern districts.

# Malaria claims 500 lives in Sherpur during last 4 months.

From Our Correspondent

SHERPUR, Dec 24: The overall malaria situation in the three thanas of the district has further deteriorated during the last four months.

According to local chairman, the disease took a severe toll in Naltabari.

Jhenai and Sreebordi thanas of the district claiming 500 lives and attacking 25,000 others. Due to communication difficulties most of the patients fail to seek medical treatment. On the other hand, most of the health complexes were reported short in medicine and other facilities to provide necessary treatment.

It was also reported, no visual steps adopted on the part of Health Department to check the disease.

# Valuables worth Tk 23 lakh guttured in B'baria

From Our Correspondent

BRAHMANBARIA, Dec 24: A devastating fire gutted valuables worth about Taka twenty-three lakh at Sarakbazar of the district town early last week.

According to Brahmanbaria fire brigade, the fire originated from an electric short circuit in the hardware shop engulfed three shops 'Mrs Mukand Pal', Ramdul Store and Samnath Bander and reduced all the valuables of those shops to ashes.

Fire brigades from Brahmanbaria fire station, Ashugonj station, Comilla station, Hobigonj station and Bhairal fire station rushed to spot at Sarak Bazar of the district town.

Firemen took about 3 hours to bring the blaze under control.

The local people alleged that Brahmanbaria fire brigade had not used their water tanker as a result fire quickly spread.

In this connection, Brahmanbaria fire station master Md Siah Uddin said that their water tanker was unfortunately out of order that day. But all other equipment along with emergency car and jet pump was used at once and they controlled the blaze, he claimed.

In another incident valuables worth about Taka two lakh were gutted at Sreeghar village under Nasiragar thana of the district recently.

According to sources, the fire engulfed the house of ex-UP chairman Hasan Ali of Sreeghar village of Burissar Union Parishad under Nasiragar thana of the district.

The valuables including 3 cows, 2 tinshed houses, one cowshed were burnt to ashes.

The reason of the fire incident is still unknown.

# Two killed, 20 injured in road mishaps

SAVAR, Dec 24: Two people were killed and 20 others injured in two separate road mishaps on Dhaka-Aricha highway on Saturday last, reports UNB.

Police and witnesses said, a head on collision between two trucks at Kalia in Dhamrai thana left helper Abbas Ali, 30, and an unidentified businessman, 30, dead on the spot.

In another incident, 20 people were injured when a Dhaka-bound bus hit a road divider after loosing its control.

The injured were released after first aid.

# Poet Sukanta Bhattacharya's home under illegal occupation

From Our Correspondent

GOPALGANJ, Dec 24: The ancestral homestead of Poet Sukanta Bhattacharya in village Unasia under Kowtalpara thana in the district of Gopalganj is now in the grip of a local influential man and there is no government step to recover the homestead.

It is learnt that one Bhomar Ali allegedly forged some documents to the effect that his father purchased the ancestral homestead of Poet Sukanta Bhattacharya, appertaining to Khatian No. 125 of Unasia Mouza under Kowtalpara thana in the district on an auction of the Certificate Sale and he got his name mutated in respect of the homestead in collusion of some delinquent staff of the thana revenue office of Kowtalpara.

The sale of homestead on auction is prohibited under

the provisions of the State Acquisition Act, 1950 and all other land laws of the country. But Bhomar Ali could get his name mutated in respect of the homestead in the Office of the Thana Revenue Officer in contravention of the laws of the country.

Some local people reported that the matter was brought to the notice of the concerned officials of the thana including the district administration years before. But no step has been taken to recover the commemorating ancestral homestead of Poet Sukanta Bhattacharya from the grip of Bhomar Ali for unknown reasons.

Many people come to Kowtalpara to visit the ancestral homestead of Poet Sukanta Bhattacharya and urge the officials to preserve the commemorating home-

stead. But all those requests go in vain.

It is required that the Archaeological Department of the Government should come forward to preserve the poet's ancestral homestead.

A non-government organisation after the name of the poet, Kabi Sukanta Seba Sangha, has been working in the area. And a library after his name has been set up by the Thana Parishad at Kowtalpara thana headquarters. All these attempts to commemorate Sukanta Bhattacharya are required to be coordinated under the government patronage centering the ancestral homestead of the poet.



The ancestral home of Poet Sukanta Bhattacharya. — Star photo

# No supply of water in hospital

MADARIPUR, Dec 24: Patients, doctors and staff of Kalkini Thana Hospital have been suffering badly due to absence of water supply system at the hospital since last six years, reports UNB.

They have to use tubewell water for all purposes. But the number of tubewell is also inadequate to meet the requirement, hospital employees alleged.

In 1989, the authorities closed the water supply system due to excessive of salinity in the water supplied at the hospital, informed sources said.

# Fish trader robbed in Kishoreganj

KISHOREGANJ, Dec 24: A local fish trader was robbed of in broad day light by armed miscreants about two kilometres near Tarail thana headquarters on Saturday last, reports UNB.

The miscreants numbering three took away Tk 25,000 from his possession at gun point.

Witnesses said Mahandra Barman, a trader of dry fish, came under attack by the miscreants near Tarail BRAC office while he was going to sadar by a rickshaw.

**Government of Bangladesh**  
Office of the Executive Engineer, PHE  
Chandpur Division, Chandpur

## Tender Notice

### No: 14/1995-96

Sealed tenders in Bangladesh Form No 2911 are hereby invited from DPHE enlisted bonafide 1st. Class "C" category contractors having experience in the installation of 350 x 150 mm dia gravel shrouded/non-shrouded production wells successfully for the work mentioned below in Hajiganj purashava under 23-town water supply project of DPHE, contractors intending to participate in the tender shall have to produce valid licence for 1995-96 along with experience certificate from not below the rank of Executive Engineer of DPHE, countersigned by the Superintending Engineer of DPHE at the time of purchasing tender documents.

| Sl. No. | Description of work   | Estimated cost (in Tk.) | Cost of tender document (in Tk) | Earnest Mon-ey (in Tk.) | Time of completion |
|---------|---|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 1.      | Installation of 350 x 150 mm dia shrouded production well at Hajiganj pourashava. | 13,15,078/-             | 750/-                           | 26,302/-                | 60 days            |

**Terms and Conditions**

- The tender documents will be available in the office of the undersigned, Executive Engineer, PHE, Ground Water Exploration & Development Division, Dhaka and Executive Engineer, PHE, Comilla Division, Comilla on any working days during the office hours up to 30-12-95. Tender will be received in the office of the Executive Engineer, PHE Ground Water Exploration and Development Division, Dhaka, Executive Engineer, PHE, Comilla Division, Comilla and the office of the undersigned on 31-12-95 up to 1-00 PM. All the tenders will be opened by the undersigned on 01-01-96 at 3-00 PM in this office in presence of the tenderers or their representatives happen to be present at the time of opening of the tenders.
- No tender document will be sold on the date scheduled for dropping.

DPP-31876-20/12  
G-1941

**Executive Engineer, PHE**  
Chandpur Division, Chandpur

**Bangladesh Gas Fields Company Limited**  
(A Company of Petrobangla)  
PO Box No 8, Court Road, Brahmanbaria

## Tender Notice

Dated: 10-12-95

Tender Notice No CD/HO/3 (52)

Sealed tenders in the prescribed forms are hereby invited from the enlisted 1st class contractors of Public Works Department (PWD)/Roads & Highways Department (RHD)/Public Health Engineering Department (PHED)/Housing & Settlement Directorate (H&SD)/ Bangladesh Railway (BR) and Petrobangla & its Companies for the following works:

| Sl No | Name of the work   | Estimated cost (Tk) | Completion time in days | Cost of tender documents (Non-refundable) (Tk) | Minimum qualification of bidders |
|-------|--|---------------------|-------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| A)    | Construction of retaining wall/Dyke at Meghna Gas Field, Morichakandi (re-tender).   | 30,43,485/-         | 120 days                | 1000/-   | 1st class                        |
| B)    | Construction of Drawing-cum-Dining Room for Rest House at Habiganj Gas Field, Habiganj.  | 9,25,962/30         | 90 days                 | 1000/-   | 1st class                        |
| C)    | Repairing work of Officers Building & renovation of existing Officers' Club at Bakhrabad Gas Field, Muradnagar, Comilla (re-tender).       | 4,32,623/65         | 90 days                 | 500/-  | 2nd class                        |
| D)    | Repairing of culverts wing walls on the link road of Bakhrabad Gas Field, Muradnagar, Comilla (re-tender).                                 | 4,32,363/-          | 90 days                 | 500/-  | 2nd class                        |
| E)    | Construction of retaining wall & Earth filling at 2 places of approach road of well No Hbj-5, at Habiganj Gas Field, Habiganj (re-tender). | 3,51,198/50         | 75 days                 | 500/-  | 2nd class                        |
| F)    | Repairing work of Drilling store at Location-6 of Habiganj Gas Field, Habiganj.  | 1,53,538/65         | 30 days                 | 500/-  | 2nd class                        |
| G)    | Construction of heavy vehicle workshop at Titas Location-1, Brahmanbaria.  | 1,22,042/46         | 60 days                 | 500/-  | 2nd class                        |
| H)    | Modification of a portion of a ware house as computer room at Titas Location-1, Brahmanbaria (re-tender)                                   | 42,454/90           | 45 days                 | 100/-  | 3rd class                        |

- Intending firms may obtain tender schedule from the following offices from 20.12.95 to 28.12.95 during office hours on cash payment:
  - For SI No A to H : Finance Department, Bangladesh Gas Fields Co Ltd, Court Road, Brahmanbaria and its Liaison Office, 97, Purana Paltan, Bijoynagar, Dhaka-1000.
  - For SI No A: i) Accounts Division, Petrobangla, 3, Kawranbazar, Dhaka.
  - Accounts Division, Bangladesh Petroleum Exploration Co Ltd, Ibrahim Mansion (4th floor), 11, Purana Paltan, Dhaka.
  - Accounts & Finance Division, Titas Gas T&D Co Ltd, Titas Bhaban, 11, Kawranbazar, Dhaka.
  - Rupantarita Prakritik Gas Co Ltd, BSEC Bhaban, Kawranbazar, Dhaka.
  - Accounts & Finance Division, Bakhrabad Gas Systems Ltd, Chapapur, Comilla.
  - Accounts Department, Jalalabad Gas T&D Systems Ltd, Ambarkhana, Barabazar, Sylhet.
  - Accounts & Finance Division, Sylhet Gas Fields Co Ltd, Chiknagool, Sylhet.
- Tenders in SI No A to H shall be received in the Tender Box kept in Civil Engineering Deptt. of BGFCL, Court Road, Brahmanbaria and for SI No A in other offices as mentioned in para-2 (b) up to 11 AM on 31-12-95 and simultaneously be opened at 11.15 AM of the same day in presence of the tenderers, if any.
- Tenderers must submit earnest money equivalent to 2.5% of their quoted amount along with their tender. If the quoted amount is less than the estimate beyond 5%, the tender must accompany additional earnest money equivalent to 10% of the quoted amount and itemwise detail rate analysis for the work. The earnest money in favour of Bangladesh Gas Fields Co Ltd, Brahmanbaria will be in the form of Pay Order/Bank Draft from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh.
- Tenders must also accompany the following:
  - Copy of work-order of technically similar works completed in a single work-order with own supply of materials in the last five years amounting not less than the quoted amount shown in the tender along with completion certificate from an officer of rank not below the Executive Engineer.
  - Current Bank Solvency certificate telling that the firm is capable to invest 40% of the estimated cost of work at a time for execution of the works.
  - Income Tax clearance certificate up to 1993-94, VAT registration certificate, upto-date Trade Licence and Enlistment certificate.

All the certificates to be submitted along with the tender must be in original or duly attested by a Gazetted Officer.

The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or reject all the tenders without showing any reason without accepting any liability.

PRS-9/073 (CIVIL)/95  
DPP-31845-19/12  
G-1943

**Senior Manager (Planning & De velopment)**

**VOA**  
VOICE OF AMERICA

# কুপন প্রতিযোগিতা

**কুপন**

এখানে কাটুন

- ১। **ভয়েস অব আমেরিকা'র সদর দপ্তর কোথায়?**  
উত্তর: [ ] ক. ওয়াশিংটন ডিসি [ ] খ. নিউ ইয়র্ক [ ] গ. ডালাস [ ] ঘ. হাউট
- ২। **মুক্তবাস্ট্রি মোটর অর রাজ্যের সংখ্যা কত?**  
উত্তর: [ ] ক. ৪৯টি [ ] খ. ৫০টি [ ] গ. ৫১টি [ ] ঘ. ৫২টি
- ৩। **ভয়েস অব আমেরিকা'র বাংলা বিভাগ কোন অনুষ্ঠানে প্রোডাকশনের চিঠিপত্রের জবাব দেয়?**  
উত্তর: [ ] ক. পিতলী [ ] খ. বন্দন [ ] গ. মিতলী [ ] ঘ. পর-মিতা
- ৪। **বিল ক্রিন্টন মুক্তবাস্ট্রির কততম প্রেসিডেন্ট?**  
উত্তর: [ ] ক. ৩২তম [ ] খ. ৩৬তম [ ] গ. ৩৯তম [ ] ঘ. ৪২তম
- ৫। **ভয়েস অব আমেরিকা'র বাংলা বিভাগের সাতা অধিবেশন প্রতিদিন কখন আরম্ভ হয়?**  
উত্তর: [ ] ক. রাত ১-০০ টায় [ ] খ. রাত ১-০০ টায় [ ] গ. রাত ১০-০০ টায় [ ] ঘ. রাত ১০-০০ টায়

প্রতিযোগীর নাম: \_\_\_\_\_

পিতার নাম: \_\_\_\_\_

বর্তমান ঠিকানা: \_\_\_\_\_

এখানে কাটুন

## নিয়মাবলী

**আয়োজক:**  
**ঢাকা জেলা ভয়েস অব আমেরিকা (ভিওএ) ক্যান ক্লাব**

প্রথম, দ্বিতীয় এবং তৃতীয় পুরস্কার যথাক্রমে: ঢাকা-হংকং-ঢাকা, ঢাকা-করাচী-ঢাকা এবং ঢাকা-কটমন্ডু-ঢাকা বিমান টিকেট। এই পুরস্কার প্রদান করা হবে বিমান বাংলাদেশ এয়ারলাইন্স-এর সৌজন্যে।

**প্রতিযোগিতার নিয়মাবলী:**

- ১। ভিওএ'র প্রোডাকশন এবং ক্যান ক্লাব সদস্যদের বাংলাদেশে অবস্থানকারী যে কোন ব্যক্তি এই প্রতিযোগিতায় অংশগ্রহণ করতে পারবেন।
- ২। প্রতিযোগীদেরকে চারটি উত্তরের মধ্যে সঠিক উত্তরের নাম পাঠে টিক চিহ্ন দিতে হবে।
- ৩। ঢাকার মার্কিন দূতাবাসের কর্মীবৃন্দ, তাদের পরিবারবর্গ এবং ঢাকা জেলা ভিওএ ক্যান ক্লাবের কর্মকর্তাবৃন্দ এবং তাদের পরিবারবর্গের কেউ এই প্রতিযোগিতায় অংশগ্রহণ করতে পারবেন না।
- ৪। পুরস্কার ক্রমাগত (ক্রেডিটকপি গ্রহণযোগ্য নয়)। ঢাকা জেলা ভয়েস অব আমেরিকা ক্যান ক্লাব, ১৬/১, নয়াপল্টন, ঢাকা-১০০০ এই ঠিকানায় আগামী ১৫ই জানুয়ারী, ১৯৯৬ তারিখের মধ্যে ডাকযোগে পৌঁছাতে হবে (সেদারি গ্রহণযোগ্য নয়)।
- ৫। প্রাথমিকভাবে নির্বাচিতদের নামের তালিকা আগামী ২৫ শে জানুয়ারী, ১৯৯৬ তারিখে এই পত্রিকায় প্রকাশিত হবে এবং ডাকযোগেও জানান হবে। পুরস্কার বিতরণের তারিখ এবং স্থানও তখন জানিয়ে দেয়া হবে। একই ব্যক্তি একাধিক কুপন পাঠাতে পারবেন। একাধিক সঠিক উত্তরদাতার ক্ষেত্রে লটারীর মাধ্যমে বিজয়ী নির্ধারণ করা হবে।

BJMC 1023 Dt 14.12.95  
DPP-31789-19/12  
G-1942