

Dhaka Day by Day

Looking into Enquiry Committee

by A. S. M. Nurunnabi

The numerous enquiry committees formed on various issues is a very intriguing subject. It is difficult to make a tally of the total number of such committees so far constituted. Dhaka being the capital has a major share of these committees. According to an estimate, more than 300 enquiry committees were formed during the last four years. With a few exceptions, reports of most of these committees never saw the light of day.

Enquiry committees are found to cover a wide spectrum of subjects, such as accidents on railways and roads, allegations of irregularities and corruption in financial and corporation sectors, proposals for administrative reforms, etc. Some of these committees are formed at national level, while others relate to specific events.

Many questions are raised in respect of such enquiry committees. Since most of them don't bear any fruit, they, by and large, don't have much credibility with the people.

Some people previously associated with such committees identify two main difficulties in their achieving fruitful results. First of such difficulties is stated to be lack of willingness or indifference on the part of witnesses to testify before an enquiry committee. This is mainly due to apprehension of involvement in what is considered unnecessary complications. This sometimes creates a situation where an enquiry committee fails to get a fuller picture of the

subject of enquiry. The other factor identified as responsible for causing bottlenecks in the process of enquiry is the exercise of pressure from powerful groups, particularly when the findings of an enquiry committee tend to go against a group. It is alleged that in some cases, invisible hands begin to operate from the very time of inception of an enquiry committee in such a manner that the enquiry is prolonged indefinitely, ultimately causing it to wither away.

Sometimes questions are raised about the standard methodology of the process of enquiry adopted by an enquiry committee. There are some times allegations of conducting an enquiry in a slipshod manner. As a result of all this, sometimes the real purpose of setting up an enquiry committee to identify the causative factors and the persons at fault are frustrated. This tends, in a large measure, to undermine the credibility of such reports of enquiry committees which are lucky to see the light of day. In many cases, an enquiry committee is used as a ploy to defuse tension on any important public issue. In such cases, little chance exists of finding redress or remedy for many issues involving accidents, irregularities, corruption or social unrest. In fact, observers feel there is an overriding need for setting up an enquiry committee to find out why enquiry committees, when set up, normally fail to deliver the goods.



Law & order situation very good: Shamsul

Information and Commerce Minister M Shamsul Islam said in the city yesterday that the country's overall law and order situation was very good, reports BSS.

"Today's law and order situation in Dhaka and elsewhere is definitely better than yesterday," he told a questioner at briefing for the foreign press. BNP standing committee member and former deputy leader of the House Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury also spoke at the briefing.

The Information Minister was optimistic that the law and order situation would improve further and today would be a good day for holding the countrywide parliamentary elections.

Comparing the situation during the earlier elections in the country, the minister asserted that the present situation is better.

Replying a question Shamsul said that the Election Commission had taken strict measures for conducting the elections smoothly and in a peaceful manner.

Replying to another question in the deployment of army in the streets, the minister said it was the Election Commission under which the law enforcing agencies including the army would operate for the sake of conducting the polls as well as maintaining

law and order situation. To a question regarding the conduct of army even in dealing with peaceful non-violent procession in the city yesterday he said that the Election Commission's ban on any kind of procession before the 48 hour of the polls had already begun midnight Tuesday night.

Replying to another question whether the army would be withdrawn on February 17 after the polls as per the declaration of the Chief Election Commissioner, the minister said if the things go well, there is no reason why the army should not be withdrawn.

When asked to comment on the observation of the Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina that the opposition would neither recognise the government after the elections nor hold any discussion with it, he said there was no last word in politics.

BNP standing committee member and former deputy leader of the House Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury contradicted the comments made in yesterday's BBC world news service that "this election will achieve nothing."

He pointed out that the February 15 elections would preserve and uphold the national constitution.



Sgt Zahurul Haq's 27th anniversary of death today

By Staff Correspondent. Today is the 27th death anniversary of Shaheed Sergeant Zahurul Haq. He was killed on this day by Pakistan armed forces while he was held at Dhaka Cantonment for involvement in the Agartala Conspiracy Case.

The students of Dhaka University renamed Iqbal Hall after him to show their respect. After the War of Independence, an air force base in Chittagong was named in his honour.

His family has organised prayers for salvation of the departed soul.

Comilla-Kotbari road unusable

The movement of traffic on the Comilla-Kotbari road has recently become risky due to its dilapidated condition, reports UNB.

The 10 kilometre road links the town with Kotbari which is well-known for various reasons. The Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development (BARD) is situated here. A large number of dignitaries from home and abroad, including head of states, ambassadors and scientists frequently visit the academy. Besides, Kotbari is also famous for its tourist importance.



A hartal activist being taken into police custody from city's Tophkhana Road yesterday.



Ballot boxes have been dispatched to the polling centres. This picture was taken from city's Ideal High School yesterday.

Stamp on World Cup Cricket '96

The Bangladesh Post Office has issued a set of three commemorative postage stamps of Tk 4, Tk 6 and Tk 10 denomination and a First Day Cover valued at Tk 6 on the occasion of the World Cup Cricket '96, reports UNB.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia formally released the stamps in a ceremony at her office yesterday. A special canceller was also used.

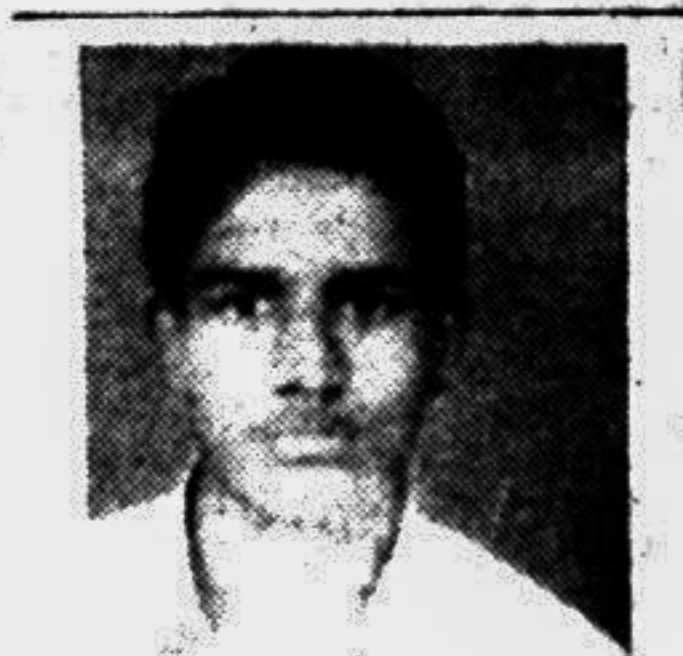
The stamps and the first day cover will be sold simultaneously from all head post offices, including the GPOs. These will subsequently be sold from all post offices, including the extra departmental ones.

Secretary to the Prime Minister Abdullah Haroon Paasha, Post and Telecommunications secretary M Hafizuddin Khan, Director General of Bangladesh Post Office M Baduzzaman and Additional Director General MRA Khan were present on the occasion.

Seminar on Al-Quds tomorrow

A seminar on liberation of holy Al-Quds and Responsibility of Muslim Ummah will be held at the Islamic Foundation auditorium tomorrow, reports UNB.

Organised by the Al-Quds Committee, Bangladesh, the seminar will be attended by justice Abdul Quddus Chowdhury and Iranian Ambassador Mahmoud Bayat as chief and special guests respectively. Prof Mujahidul Islam will present the key-note.



Appeal for help

By JU Correspondent. The students of Jahangirnagar University's English Department have made an urgent appeal for help to treat a fellow-student who seriously injured his right leg in a road mishap recently.

Abdullah-Al-Faruq, a second-year student who is under treatment at the Orthopedic Hospital, requires complex surgery. The cost of the procedure is beyond him. Persons willing to extend a helping hand are requested to contact: Shamsad Mortuza, lecturer, English Department, JU by phoning 466850 or sending their contribution to joint account of Faruq and his brother-in-law Akramul Haq, S. A/C no. 5739, Janata Bank, Shyamoli branch, Dhaka.

BJMC Advertisement Tender Notice

Sealed tenders are hereby invited by the Peoples Jute Mills Limited, Town Khalishpur, Khulna from the BJMC enlisted contractors of category A-3 and above having past experience of Water Proofing works by roofing felt for the undermentioned works.

1. Repairing of water proofing works of 10 Nos. Conoidal Shells and Valley gutters of Mill No. 2. Estimated amount Tk. 3,74,913.00, Earnest money Tk. 9,373.00.
2. Repairing of Water Proofing Works of 20 Nos. conoidal shells and valley gutters of Pucca Assorting Shed & Bales Godown, Estimated amount Tk. 7,40,570.00. Earnest money of Tk. 18,515.00.
3. Repairing of Water proofing works of Valley gutters of Mill No. 2 and 3 (1st phase) by roofing felts. Estimated amount Tk. 2,16,263.00, Earnest money Tk. 5,407.00.

Tenders will be received in the office of the Planning Division, BJMC, Dhaka/Dy. General Manager (Admn.), BJMC, Khulna Zone, Khulna/Dy. General Manager (Admn.), Peoples Jute Mills Ltd., Town Khalishpur, Khulna up to 11:00 AM and will be opened at 11:30 AM on 28-2-96 in presence of the tenderers, if any. Tender schedule can be obtained from the General Manager (A&F), BJMC, Dhaka/Dy. Gen. Manager (A&F), BJMC, Khulna Zone, Khulna/Dy. General Manager (A&F), Peoples Jute Mills Ltd., Town Khalishpur, Khulna except the opening date on payment of Tk. 250.00 for Sl. No. 1, Tk. 450.00 for Sl. 2 & Tk. 200.00 for Sl. No. 3 (non-refundable) per set having a tender schedule purchase permission from the Manager (Civil), BJMC, Dhaka/Manager (Civil), Peoples Jute Mills Ltd., Town Khalishpur, Khulna, showing experience certificate of water proofing works by roofing felts.

BJMC : 91 dt 7.2.96
DFP-3502-11/2 G-257

BCIC International Tender Notice

বিসিআইসি'র পণ্য শিয়ারনে জাতীয় অগ্রগতির ধাতিক

Sealed tenders in two envelope system on C&F (C), Chittagong basis are invited by the Managing Director, Jamuna Fertilizer Company Ltd, Tarakandi, Sarishabari, Jamalpur vide Tender No. JFCL/FP/MTS/SHSM/2.226/105 dt 28.1.96 for supply of conveyor Belt. Tender will be received up to 11:00 AM on 20.3.96 and be opened immediately afterwards. Tender documents with detailed description can be collected subject to cash payment of Tk 300/- (Tk three hundred) only (Non-refundable) per set from (i) BCIC, 30-31, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka (ii) BCIC Branch Office, 6, Agrabad C/A, Chittagong (iii) Jamuna Fertilizer Company Ltd, Jamalpur. No Tender document will be sold on the date of opening. BCIC 142-8/2/96
DFP-3495-11/2 G-259

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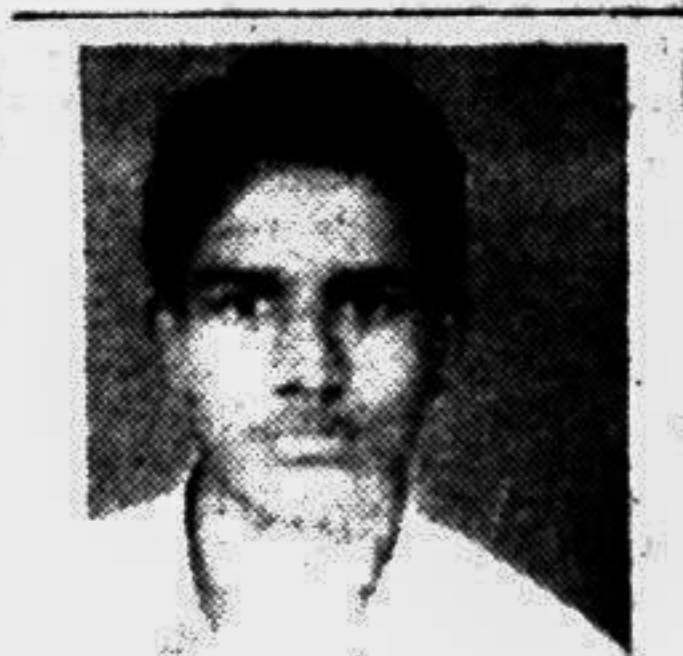
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TO-LET
THREE BED, DRAWING, DINING, GARAGE, ISD PHONE ETC. FOREIGNERS/BUYING OFFICE PREFERRED-70E. ROAD 17, BANANI-885567.8-73

Tender Notice
বিদ্যুৎ ব্যবহারে নিতবায়ী হোন
Name of work: Replacing of 0.4 KV 150 Nos. faulty consumer metering units in Sales & Distribution Division, PDB, Sylhet-1, 2 & 3 areas. Eligibility of contractor: Power Development Board enlisted 'A' class valid ABC licence holder electrical contractors. Estimated cost: Taka 16,69,680/- (sixteen lakh sixty-nine thousand six hundred eighty) only. Price of tender: Taka 1,200/- (one thousand two hundred) only (non-refundable) through Pay Order/Bank Draft in favour of Deputy Director (Accounts), কোসাক, PDB, Dhaka. Place & date of tender availability: From Chief Engineer, Central Zone, 1, Abdul Gani Road, Biddut Bhaban, PDB, Dhaka/Superintending Engineer, Planning & Development Circle, Central Zone, 1, Abdul Gani Road, Biddut Bhaban, Dhaka/Executive Engineer, System Loss Reduction Scheme Division, House No. 23/B, Road No. 42, Gulshan-2, PDB, Dhaka up to 02-03-96. Date of receiving & opening: 03-03-96 up to 12:00 Noon & on the same day at 12:30 PM. Tenders will be sold subject to compliance by the contractors of the terms like certificate of entitlement for 1995-96, valid trade licence, affidavit document of the firm etc. prior to purchase of tender. All other terms & conditions of tender must be properly complied with.
Executive Engineer
System Loss Reduction Scheme Division
PDB, Dhaka.
Biddut/Jan-1075(7)/95-96
IFP-1161-8/2
G-262

Local Tender Notice
জাতীয় অগ্রগতিতে বিএসআইসি'র আন্তর্জাতিকমানের পণ্য সামগ্রী ব্যবহার করুন
Bangladesh Steel & Engineering Corporation, BSEC Bhaban, 402, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1215 invites sealed tenders for the undermentioned items:

Tender No. & date	Name of items	Earnest money	Date & time of opening tender	Price of tender
BSEC/Purchase/Stationery & Electrical/ 7/95-96 dated 04-02-96	Stationery & Electrical goods	$\frac{1}{2}\%$ on total value	06-03-1996 at 11-15 hours	Taka 50.00 per set (non-refundable)

Tender document containing detailed terms & conditions can be purchased on cash payment from the Cash Section of the Head Office, BSEC Bhaban (3rd floor), 102, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1215 any day during office hours except on the date of opening tender.
No-BSEC/PRD/409 dt: 5-2-96
DFP: 3215-8/2 G-260

Bangladesh Gas Fields Company Limited
(A Company of Petrobangla)
PO Box No 8, Court Road, Brahmanbaria
"গাছ লাগান, গাছের পরিচর্যা করুন এবং পরিবেশ বাচান"- প্রযানমন্ত্রী

Tender Notice
No CD/HO/3(54) Dated: 04-02-96

1. Sealed tender in the prescribed forms are hereby invited from the enlisted contractors of Public Works Department (PWD)/Road & Highway Department (RHD)/Public Health Engineering Department (PHED)/Housing & Settlement Directorate (H & SD)/ Bangladesh Railway (BR) and Petrobangla & its companies for the following works:
SI 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 Auditorium on the 1st floor of the TNG Office Building at Titas Location-1, Brahmanbaria.	22,48,554/51	120	1000/-	1st class
B)	Painting works on Ceramic brick of the Office Building at Bakhrabad Gas Field, Moradnagar, Comilla.	1,24,750/-	45	500/-	2nd class

2. Indenting firms may obtain tender schedule from the following offices from 25-02-96 to 07-03-96 during office hours on cash payment:
a) For SI No A & B: Finance Department, Bangladesh Gas Fields Co Ltd, Court Road, Brahmanbaria and its Liaison Office, 97, Purana Paltan, Bijoygar, Dhaka-1000.
b) For SI No A:
i) Accounts Division, Petrobangla, 3, Kawranbazar, Dhaka.
ii) Accounts Division, Bangladesh Petroleum Exploration Co Ltd, Ibrahim Mansion (4th floor), 11, Purana Paltan, Dhaka.
iii) Accounts & Finance Division, Titas Gas T & D Co Ltd, Titas Bhaban, 11, Kawranbazar, Dhaka.
iv) Ruptanarita Praktic Gas Co Ltd, BSEC Bhaban, Kawranbazar, Dhaka.
v) Accounts & Finance Division, Bakhrabad Gas Systems Ltd, Chapapur, Comilla.
vi) Accounts Department, Jalalabad Gas T & D System Ltd, Ambarkhana, Barabazar, Sylhet.
vii) Accounts & Finance Division, Sylhet Gas Fields Co. Ltd, Chiknagool, Sylhet.

Tender Invitation Notice
Tender Notice No. 30 (thirty)/Executive Engineer (R&H), Habiganj 1995-96.
Tenders are hereby invited in Bangladesh Form No. 2911 from Roads & Highways Department enlisted valid 'A' to 'D' class contractors for the undermentioned works:

Group No.	Name & site of work	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Time allowed	Eligibility of contractor
1 (one)	Construction of flexible pavement at different KMs of Habiganj-Nabiganj-Sherpur Road under Habiganj Road Division during 1995-96 financial year. Divided in 3 (three) groups.				
	12th KM of Habiganj-Nabiganj-Sherpur Road	Tk 24,02,632/=	Tk 48,053/=	60 (sixty) days from the date of issue of work order	'A' to 'D' General class
2 (two)	11th KM of Habiganj-Nabiganj-Sherpur Road	Tk 24,02,632/=	Tk 48,053/=	60 (sixty) days -do-	-Do-
3 (three)	17th KM of Habiganj-Nabiganj-Sherpur Road	Tk 24,02,632/=	Tk 48,053/=	60 (sixty) days -do-	-Do-

Special earnest money: The contractor quoting rate more than 5% (five per cent) below the rate mentioned in the schedule shall have to deposit special earnest money equivalent to 10% (ten per cent) of the estimated cost with the tender in the form of BD/Pay Order from scheduled bank in favour of Executive Engineer (R&H), Habiganj Road Division, Habiganj, otherwise tender will be treated as cancelled outright. Permanent earnest money depositor also has to deposit this special earnest money. Tenders of the contractors quoting rate more than 10% (ten per cent) below the rate in schedule will be treated as cancelled outright.
Tender schedule, specification, terms & conditions, special terms & conditions etc can be seen and purchased from the office of Executive Engineer (R&H), Road Division, Habiganj/Moulvibazar/Sylhet/Sunamganj/Planning & Design Division, Comilla/Planning Division, Sarak Bhaban, Dhaka/Sub-Divisional Engineer (R&H), Road Sub-Division, Habiganj/Shaestaganj/1st Line Workshop Sub-Division, Habiganj up to 24-02-96.
Tenders will be received at the office of Additional Chief Engineer (R&H), Comilla Zone, Comilla/Superintending Engineer (R&H), Sylhet Road Circle, Sylhet/Superintending Engineer (R&H), Monitoring & Evaluation Circle, Sarak Bhaban, Dhaka & the undersigned up to 12:30 PM of 25-02-96 and all the tenders received together will be opened at the office of the undersigned on 27-02-96 at 11:00 am.
Md Abdul Khaled Mian
Executive Engineer (R&H)
Road Division, Habiganj.

DFP-9184-8/2 G-253