

National

Transporting perishables from N-dists to capital

Traders frequently harassed to pay unauthorised toll

by Naimul Haq recently back from Aricha

MANIKGANJ, August 26: Traders transporting seasonal vegetables, fruits and spices from the northern districts to the capital through Nagarbari and Aricha ferry ghats have too many tales of harassment at the hands of unauthorised toll collectors to tell. Many such traders have virtually become hostage to the 'rules' imposed by these elements leading to frequent untoward incidents at the ghats.

Traders who make regular trips on this route with their perishable goods from Bogra, Joypurhat and other districts alleged that police sergeants often stop their five-tonner trucks at different points on arbitrary grounds of overloading and ask for a toll. This happens every day, said one trader carrying on business for long 18 years. Traffic police stop our vehicles and ask their goons to collect toll from us. This is done

to avoid public attention', said one truck driver. We are left with no choice but to pay the toll or else stand there for the rest of the day for clearance. As we are aware of the so-called 'rules' we avoid the long wait', he said.

The month of August is the peak of the season as fresh vegetables and fruits from the northern districts start moving to the capital. A regular trader would not risk violating the 'rules' of paying tolls at the recognised places on the way. Any sort of resistance to paying the tolls can end up in disastrous loss of business', said another trader who asked not to be named. A fellow trader said, usually a loaded truck carry perishables worth Tk 1.5 lakh to Tk two lakh. So, resistance is out of the question.

When asked, a police sergeant of Manikganj said, 'the truck drivers overload the vehicles. It is not always possible to check such overloading at starting points. We stop vehicles at random, curb overloading but some still get away. Sometimes we are accused of accepting bribe. This is not true. They break the rules and we are blamed for trying to curb the of- fense', he said.

A truck driver said, 'a single loaded trip from Joypurhat to Dhaka would cost a trader Tk 8,000 to Tk 12,000. Usually a number of traders hire a single truck for convenience. In business, load means money. So in most cases we overload the truck in return for extra earnings.'

'Our charge for a trip includes the toll money paid at different points,' said another truck driver from Bogra. 'Baghabari, Sarishabari, Sherpur, Aricha, Chandaighona, Ul-

larpa and Nagarbari are some of the recognised points where we pay tolls. At each point a hundred taka note is good enough for 'transit pass', said the truck driver.

Crossing the Padma and the Jamuna is always a big problem. At Nagarbari five-tonner truck has to pay Tk 720 as ferry charge, as prescribed by the Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation. However, if it is overloaded, a trader has to pay between Tk 100 and Tk 500 for a place on an early ferry jumping the ghat's serial system.

Trucks carrying perishables are entitled to priority to board a ferry. However, traders allege that the ticket masters and ferry workers 'create' traffic jams at the pontoon to create conflicts between the drivers as conflicts lead to offering of bribes which are shared by the ticket masters, and the ferry workers.

A small trader from Joy- purhat said, 'I do not take the risk of waiting at the ghat. I rather go for putting my truck on the ferry irrespective of the cost. The earlier I reach the wholesale market at Kawran Bazar in Dhaka the higher is the price I get for my merchandise. It's business. As long as the ferry service remains so very unsatisfactory the unhygienic practice of bribing one's way through will remain.'

A truck driver said, 'a single



JHENIDAH: Administrative building of BSCIC estate at Dhanbaria in Jhenidah still not in use. — Star photo

BSCIC estate in Jhenidah**No industrial unit set up in 10 years**

From Our Correspondent

JHENIDAH, Aug 26: The industrial estate of Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) was not able to go into operation even in 10 years of starting the project, according to sources.

BSCIC took initiative to establish an industrial estate by the side of Jhenidah-Magura highway near Dhanbaria in

Jhenidah sadar thana in 1987. 15.7 acres of land was acquired to prepare 98 plots for the entrepreneurs, sources said.

According to Jhenidah BSCIC authority sources, earth filling works, road construction, electricity supply, construction of administrative buildings have been completed long ago spending Taka 1.10

crore so far. But only nine plots were given allocation among nine entrepreneurs. Remaining 89 plots are unused.

Source further informed that instead of setting up industry at BSCIC estate the wealthy people are purchasing buses, trucks and other vehicles to avoid harassment by hoodlums.

Strike observed in educational institutions in Pabna

From Our Correspondent

PABNA, Aug 26: Strike was observed peacefully in all educational institutions under the auspices of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal protesting killing and hall capturing accidents in Dhaka University by armed Chhatra League activists Saturday.

The JCD also held at rally in Edward College premises and demanded recognition of the Home Minister.

Export Promotion Bureau

রাষ্ট্রীয় বৃক্ষ জাতির সম্মতি

Sale Notice

Sealed tenders are invited by 12:00 Noon of 3-9-96 from buyers interested to purchase 4 (four) nos. old (operative) Canon NT photocopy machines of Export Promotion Bureau. For detailed information schedule should be bought from the General Section of the Bureau at Tk 100/- (one hundred) only by 2-9-96.

Md. Shah Alam
Dy-Director (Admin)**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**

Institute of Post-Graduate Medicine & Research, Shahbag, Dhaka

No. IPGMR/S-19/96-97/4296 Dated: 13-8-96

Re-Tender Notice

Locally sealed tenders from bona fide traders & contractors are invited by 12:00 Noon of 3-9-96 for auction sale of X-Ray machine, cassette, hanger and surgical other goods declared out of use of various departments of this Institute. Tender schedule will be available against cash payment of Tk 200/- (two hundred) from SLPP/Personal Assistant of Superintendent up to 2:00 PM of 2-9-96. No schedule will be sold on the date of submitting tender.

Joint Director
Institute of Post Graduate Medicine & Research
Shahbag, Dhaka.**Bangladesh Railway**

Engineering Department (West Zone)

Local Tender for Procurement of Wooden Sleeper

Tender No. Eng/West/Suspense/96-97

Sealed tenders are invited from the bona fide Importers/Timber Merchants/Suppliers for the following works:-

Sl. No.	Name of works	Approx cost	Bid Bond Amount
1.	Group 'A': Supply of 10,000 Tk. Nos. (31,250 Cft.) Broad lakhs. Gauge standard Garjan wooden sleepers for West Zone.	190.62	Tk. 3,82,000/-
2.	Group 'B': Supply of 5,000 Tk. Nos. (7,500 Cft.) Metre Gauge standard Garjan wooden sleepers for West Zone.	41.32 lakhs.	Tk. 83,000/-
3.	Group 'C': Supply of 2,000 Tk. Cft. Special Metre Gauge Garjan wooden sleeper for West Zone.	12.00 lakhs.	Tk. 24,000/-

Tender documents will be available for sale from the office of the Track Supply Officer/West, Bangladesh Railway, Rajshahi, Track Supply Officer/East, Bangladesh Railway, Chittagong and Executive Engineer/Project/Track, Bangladesh Railway, Kamalapur, Dhaka up to 24.9.1996 on all working days with deposit of non-refundable sum of Taka 750/- (seven hundred fifty) only per set. Dropping and opening time 12.00 hours and 12.30 hours respectively on 25.9.1996 in the offices mentioned above. Railway Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any tender as a whole or part without assigning any reason whatsoever. Other terms and conditions can be had from the Tender documents.

Chief Engineer/West
Bangladesh Railway
RajshahiRPRD No. 470
Date: 24-8-1996
D-906

medals of the Prime Minister in last three consecutive years for afforestation programme.

To describe his development achievements, the mayor further enlisted that he, in last five years, was able to develop 16 slums where road, water, drainage and health services were provided.

Mijanur Rahman identified shortage of water supply as the major problem of the city in terms of civic amenities. He claimed that 70 per cent of five lakh residents of the city are

One shot dead in Rangamati

From CHT Correspondent

KAUKHALI (Rangamati), Aug 26: One person was allegedly gunned down by unknown assailants recently at about 2:30 am in front of his house at Pomira Bot taly in Betbunia union parishad of Kaukhali thana in the district. Kaukhali thana police said.

A group of terrorists called

Akhtar Alam Chowdhury, 32, out of his house at about 2:30 am in the last night and instantly gunned him down. The terrorists left the spot immediately after the killing, police quoted the victim's family members as saying.

Kaukhali thana police sent the body to Rangamati sadar hospital for autopsy being informed by the relatives of the victim, police sources said.

JCD calls strike at RU From RU Correspondent

RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY, Aug 26: An allout students strike was observed at Rajshahi University yesterday at the call of BNP backed Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) Central Committee protesting the terrorism in different educational institutions of the country, as a part of its countrywide students strike.

No classes and examinations were held due to the strike. Administrative building, bank and post office remained completely closed for the day. Bus services of the University was also suspended. Meanwhile, Masters examination of the Law Department was suspended as Examination Controllers Office could not produce the respective question papers.

Bangladesh Railway
Engineering Department (West Zone)**Tender Notice**

TN No. 6/96/W(II)

Dated: 21-8-96

Sealed tenders are invited for supply of 1416 cum. Pakur stone boulders of size 30 kg. to 55 kg. (Angular shape) including all leads, lifts and proper stacking at Kushtia Gorai Railway Bridge site in all respect from the registered "C" class contractors of Bangladesh Railway, West Zone and "C" class contractors enlisted prior to re-organisation of the Railway into 2(two) zones and bona fide 1st class contractors of other govt. and semi-govt. department having past experience of boulder/ballast supply works. "C" class Railway contractors will submit their past experience certificate of boulder/ballast supply works along with the application at the time of purchase the tender documents and bona fide contractors of other departments may participate with the prior permission of competent authority of Bangladesh Railway, Rajshahi on production of certificate of boulder/ballast supply works and on cash payment of a non-refundable sum of Tk 3,000/- (three thousand) only as enlistment fee. Approximate cost 21.94 lakhs. Earnest money 2% (two) per cent of the quoted price to be deposited from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh in Bank Draft/Pay Order in favour of FA & CAO/West, Bangladesh Railway, Rajshahi. Cost of tender documents Tk 750/- (seven hundred fifty) only non-refundable. Tender documents will be available in the offices of the undersigned.

Divisional Engineer/Lamonirhat, Divisional Engineer/I/Paksey and Executive Engineer/Project/Dhaka up to 21-9-96 during office hours and to be dropped in the tender box kept in the aforesaid offices by 12.00 hours of 22-9-96 and which will be opened publicly at 12.30 hours of the same date in presence of contractors or their authorised representatives, if any. Railway administration reserves the right to accept or reject the tender as a whole or in part thereof.

RPRD No. 469

Date: 24-8-1996

D-907

For Chief Engineer/West

Bangladesh Railway

Rajshahi

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer (RHD)

Sylhet Road Division, Sylhet

Phone No 716339

Tender Notice

No 08 of Sylhet Road Division, 1996-97

1. Tender Notice No	08 of Sylhet Road Division, 1996-97.
2. Name of work	Tender for HBB work in Bailey bridge approaches in bridge no 48/1 & 55/1 at 48th & 55th KM of Charkha-Jakiganj Road under Road Division, Sylhet during the year 1996-97.
3. Charge to	168 (Maintenance).
4. Whom estimate	Superintending Engineer, RHD, Road Circle, Sylhet.
5. Approved by	Tk 1,48,511/- Tk 2,971/-
6. Estimated cost	20 (Twenty) days.
7. Time allowed	Superintending Engineer, RHD, Road Circle, Sylhet/Undersigned/Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Moulavibazar/Sunamganj & Habiganj.
8. Name of offices	Undersigned/Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Moulavibazar/Sunamganj/Planning & Design Division, Comilla/Sub-Divisional Engineer, RHD, Road Sub-Division, Sylhet/Golapganj/Biswanath & Mechanical Sub-Division, Sylhet.
9. Name of offices	14-9-96 at 12.45 PM
10. Last date of selling	15-9-96 at 11.30 AM (if required) in office of the undersigned.
11. Last date and time of receiving the tender	Under RHD, Department A to 'C' general category Sylhet Road Circle, 'D' general category and Sylhet Road Division, 'E' general categories contractor.
12. Date and time of opening the tender	Md. Muzammel Hoque
13. Date of lottery	Executive Engineer (RHD)
14. Eligibility of contractor	Sylhet Road Division, Sylhet.

DFP-18876-24/8

G-999.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Secondary Education Development ProjectMinistry of Education
458, Sennara Parbata, Section-14
Mirpur, Dhaka-1216, Bangladesh

Tender No SEDP/PIU/3983

Dated: 22-08-96

Tender Notice for International Shopping (IS) for Procurement of Scientific Equipment (Chemistry & General Equipment)

1.	The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a loan from Asian Development Bank [Loan # 1268-BAN(SF)] for Secondary Education Development Project under Ministry of Education. A portion of the loan proceeds has been earmarked for procurement of scientific equipment (Chemistry and General Equipment).
2.	The Project Director, Secondary Education Development Project, Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education, 458, Sennara Parbata, Section 14, Mirpur, Dhaka now invites sealed tenders in prescribed form from the Manufacturers/Agents/Distributors/Bonafide Dealers of scientific equipment of ADB member countries for the Project Institutions.
3.	A complete set of bidding documents with terms and conditions can be obtained on submission of a written application on cash payment of Taka 1000/- (One thousand) or a Bank Draft of US\$25.00 (Twenty-five US Dollar) only (non-refundable) in favour of Project Director, Secondary Education Development Project on all working days from 05 September 1996 to 12 September 1996 between 10.00 am to 1.00 pm from the Office of the undersigned or from the Ministry of Education (Asstt. Secretary, Section-6, Room-1801/1, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka).
4.	The bid must be accompanied by the following documents duly attested by Class-I Govt