Dated: 16.1.97/3.10.1403BS

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Jan 26: Fire incidents have increased alarmingly in Barisal division for the last two weeks, according to Fire Brigade and Civil Defence

A total of 12 fire incidents took place in different districts under Barisal division that left one person roasted alive and injuring at least 32 persons.

Almost all the fire incidents were originated from electrical short circuit, they added. Wealth including cash money and ornaments worth more than 1.50 crore taka were destroyed. The biggest fire inci-

Fertilizer being sold in black markets

SHERPUR, Jan 26: Farmers of the district are facing problems due to acute scarcity and price hike of urea fertiliser for the last few weeks, reports UNB.

Local farmers alleged that most of the government appointed dealers were selling urea in the black market creating an artificial crisis.

Earlier, the government appointed 35 dealers in the district to distribute fertiliser at fair prices.

Taking the advantage of artificial crisis, a section of traders are selling urea between Tk 240 and Tk 250 per bag against Tk 186 fixed rate.

Another report adds: Some 76,000 hectares of land will be brought under rabi crops cultivation during the current season in the district, officials

54,200 hectares will be brought under Irri-Boro, 11,900 hectares under wheat, 3,470 hectares under mustard.

dent occurred at Batajore Bandar area under Gournadi thana of Barisal district on January 14 where wealth of nearly one crore taka were burnt to the ashes with 30 shops and houses. The fire originated from electrical short circuit allegedly from

a small garments factory. It may be mentioned here that even after elevation of Barisal into a division, there are no fire stations or units at 9 out of 10 thanas of Barisal dis-

Chief Whip Abul Hasanat Abdullah, MP, elected from Gournadi area visited fire ravaged Batajore Bandar on Fri-

He also assured that a fire brigade sub-station would be set up soon at Gournadi thana headquarters.

Cold wave claims life of a woman in Pirojpur

From Staff Correspondent. BARISAL, Jan 26: Cold have claims life of a woman at Sarail village under Bhandaria thana of Pirojpur district yesterday morning.

Witnesses and local people said, one Shahinur, 37, a malnutrited very poor woman died at her dilapidated cottage in the village at about 8-30 am yesterday morning.

She had no woman cloths to protect herself from biting cold have - local sources said.

Cold wave like other places in the country also gripped southern districts decreasing the temperature gradually. Minimum temperature was recorded in Barisal at 7 degree Celsius, according to Met office

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of the Commandant (SP) RRF, Barisal

Tender Notice

Open competitive sealed tenders are invited from bonafide suppliers/contractors as per the terms & conditions stated in the schedule to supply iron cots (as per sample) for RRF, Barisal during 1996-97 financial year. It is requested to drop the tenders in the tender box kept at the office of the undersigned by 12:00 Noon of 3.2.97. Tenders will be opened on the same day at 12:30 PM in presence (if any) of the tenderers. Schedule can be collected from the office of the Chief Assistant, RRF, Barisal during office hours. Schedule can be purchased on cash payment of the price Tk 500.00 (five hundred) only (non-refundable). No schedule will be sold on the date of receiving tender. No tender without schedule will be received.

The authority reserves the right to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.

Civil Aviation Authority

of Bangladesh

Kurmitola, Dhaka

Tender Notice

Code No. 3003.

of works.

Tk. 1,20,852/= only.

R.M.O.E/M works services at Comilla

Airport during the year 1996-97 (S.H:-

Repairing/Overhauling of 50KVA

SKODA Engine Generating set i/c.

related works) Ch. to:- Rev. Expenses,

Tk. 3,025/= only in the shape of Bank

Draft/Pay Order from any scheduled

E/M contractory firm having valid

electrical contractory and supervisory

licence and experience in similar nature

Above firms may apply with necessary

papers in favour of their eligibility for

b) Director, CEMSU, CAAB

Executive Engineer, E/M Division-3,

PA to Member (Ops. & Plans)

Chief Engineer and Director (ZIA)

CAAB, Kurmitola, Dhaka.

12-2-97 (during office hours).

13-2-97 at 12:30 PM

Authority reserves the right to accept or riect any or all tenders or part

Office of the Chief Engineer, CAAB

Kurmitola, Dhaka, Executive Engineer,

E/M Division-3, CAAB, Kurmitola,

purchasing tender schedule.

Circle, CAAB, Dhaka.

Kurmitola, Dhaka.

CAAB, Dhaka.

only (Non-refundable).

DFP-1457-19/1 G-300

No. CAAB/EM-3/96-97/14

Name of work

A K M Mahfuzul Huq Commandant (SP) RRF, Barisal

Unplanned approach road at Natakhola creating traffic congestion everyday

From Ranesh Maitra

PABNA. Jan 26: Traffic congestion at the newly shifted ferry ghat at Natakhola, gateway to north through road from eastern zone of the country, is worsening everyday as the Holy Eid-ul-Fitr is getting nearer.

Hundreds of trucks loaded with essentials carrying specially vegetables got stuck at the ghat, some waiting at least for five days before boarding a

The situation at the country's biggest ferry ghat, Aricha. was also grave as more and more vehicles started to queue at the terminal, mostly carrying passengers heading towards southern and northern parts of

the country. Sources at both the ghats apprehended that the situation may further deteriorate a few days before the Eid. No special measures were yet taken by the concerned authority to ease the traffic congestion at the termi-

"We are in doubt whether we would be able to celebrate the Holy Eid-ul-Fitr, with our family and relatives living in Dhaka and Chittagong this year, like the previous years," said a number of businessmen of Pabna.

"It is really doubtful whether the entire traffic system between the eastern and northern districts would be faced with complete dislocation due to shoals appearing everyday in the Jamuna. The troubles and jams is being created at Aricha and Natakhola ghats specially due to extremely tottering condition of the temporarily built Natakhola-Nagorbari approach road.'

Jahanara Begum, an old house-wife of Shalgaria in Pabna town told the above on the same day when asked by The Daily Star how she was feeling about celebrating the Holy Eid. Her daughter and a son-in-law of Jahanara Begum are serving in Dhaka and they are expected to come to Pabna during the ensuing Eid-ul-Fitr. Along with them, her grandchildren are also to come. Jahanara said, "Neither we nor the daughter and others are sure about meeting together during the festival." "Traffic jams at the ferry ghats may spoil all their programmes," Jahanara expressed her grave doubt.

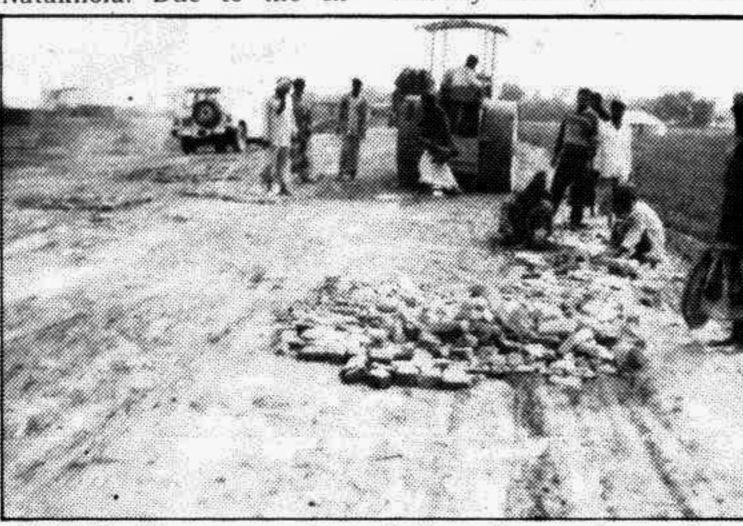
Baby Islam, a leading bus owner and President, Pabna District Motor Malik Group, told The Daily Star on Tuesday that thousands of bus and truck owners and employees of North Bengal and also from the eastern wing were in doubt whether they would be able to carry out their trips safely and timely.

"Unusual traffic jam continuing at Aricha was the reason for detaining their vehicles, specially the trucks for days together during this chilly winter. Fewer number of ferries were plying between Aricha and Natakhola. Due to the ex-

himself. Replying to some questions, the executive engineer, who joined here only two weeks back on transfer said that there was no reason to be so much apprehensive of traffic dislocation before or immediately after the Eid.

Nurul Islam said, "We are working day and night for the approach road, repairing the same and also widening the same from the existing 22 feet to 30 feet.

"In fact," the executive engineer continued, "whatever the traffic jam is experienced, it is actually found at Aricha and



PABNA: The approach road from former ferry ghat, Nagarbari to Natakhola is being repaired though in a very poorly manner. - Star photo

tremely narrow approach road from Nagorbari and Natakhola traffic disruption frequently occurs leading to the sufferings of the businessmen on this part and price-hike of commodities rendered thereby," said Baby Is-

Taking note of the above apprehensions prevailing among all sections of the people here. this correspondent visited Nagorbari and Natakhola ferry ghats on last Wednesday and found the damaged portions of the approach road to Natakhola was being repaired. When the correspondent reached the ghat, there was no traffic jam but within one and a half hours a severe traffic jam developed.

Nurul Islam, Executive Engineer, Roads and Highways Department, Pabna was found supervising the repair works

Star photo

never so much acute in Natakhola. The problem here is that while shifting the ferry ghat from Nagarbari to Natakhola, this approach road had to be constructed hastily and hence it could not be constructed properly. Necessary time for the construction was not available and hence the department had to depend on the contractors. Construction of the road was the main task and so the quality within so short time could not be ensured. Hence, the road occasionally is found to have potholes and some other problems also appear. But repair work is taken up urgently so that traffic movement remains operative.'

Replying to further questions Nurul Islam said that this road was a purely temporary one and for permanent traffic,

approval of the ECNEC.

would be available.

replied, "two years.

being awaited."

constructed."

ashore.

Replying to another ques-

the ECNEC gave its final ap-

proval. He, however, could not

say actually when the fund

would require to complete the

construction of the above 2.25-

kilometre road along with one

bridge over it. Nurul Islam

"it was badly essential to start

the construction of the

Kazirhat-Natakhola road im-

mediately since the rainy sea-

son was nearing. During the

rainy season earth work would

be difficult and even if earth-

work was taken up during the

rainy season, the proposed road

would be weak. Hence, urgent

approval and sanction were

the traffic condition for those

two years, the executive engi-

neer said, 'We have no other al-

ternative but to depend on the

existing approach road till the

Kazirhat-Natakhola road was

When asked what would be

Nurul Islam, however, said

When asked how long they

Asked whether the approach road being a weak one would be able to bear the heavy traffic for long two years, Nurul Islam said, "To speak the truth, "if there was no erosion of the road by the river Jamuna (as the approach road runs through the bank of the river) and if the trucks carry goods as per their capacity, it would run smoothly.

Explaining further, he said that BIWTA surprisingly allows trucks having capacity of 5 tonnes to carry even 20 tonnes of load and this causes harm to the road. He suggested that there should be strict observation by the BIWTC and other authorities concerned so that no vehicle with load about eight to 10 tons can cross the river till the construction of Kazirhat-Natakhola road was completed.

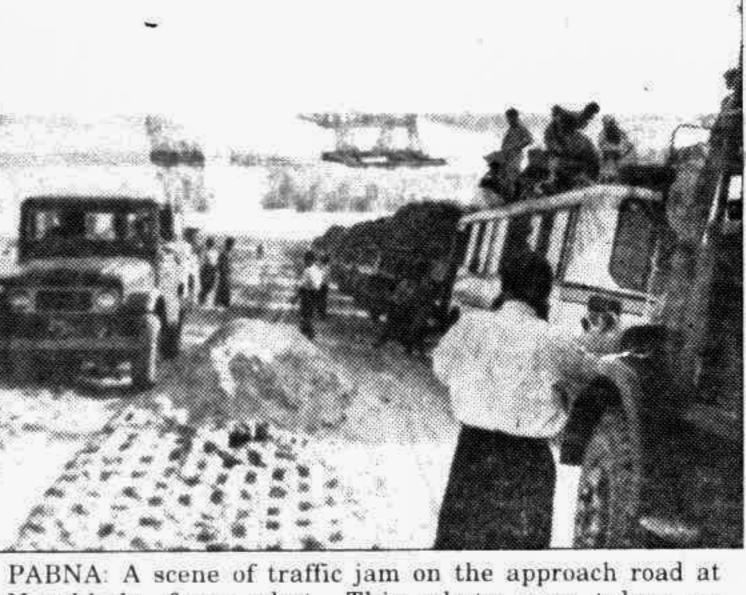
As regards the probable longevity of the approach road Nurul Islam stressed the need for proper protection arrangements and for that he suggested expert-level survey as to what type of protective arrangements should be taken for overcoming the strong waves and current of the river Jamuna during the ensuing rainy season.

"For a meaningful protective arrangement for the approach road, expert survey was not only necessary but also a must, since this is the only route upon which the road traffic system between the two zones of the country mostly and sometimes entirely depends.

An executive engineer of the BIWTA, supervising the construction work of terminal at Natakhola, told The Daily Star that they would be able to complete the construction work of the terminal by June, 1997.

Abdullah-al-Mamun, general secretary, Natakhola Ghat Sramik Union said, "Traffic jams in Natakhola ghat take serious shape occasionally, not frequently. Heavy vehicles ply extremely slowly from Natakhola to Nagarbari on the one hand and from Nagarbari to Natakhola on the other. This causes jam."

Al-Mamun further said that jams are also created when less number of ferries ply or when larger number of ferries come. Lack of parking facilities, weak approach road sometimes causing accidents. Thus immediate



Natakhola ferry ghat. This photo was taken on - Star photo Wednesday.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of the Executive Engineer Comilla Public Works Division, Comilla

PABNA: The photo shows the road from Natakhola ferry

ghat to the highway. Heavy vehicles often get stuck in

the sand-mud mixed narrow road. During rainy seasons

the picture will worsen, many truck drivers apprehend.

Tender Invitation Notice No-E/M-17/96-97

Sealed tenders in Bangladesh Form No 2911 are invited from Public Works Department enlisted 1st class electric contractors, Chittagong Public Works Zone enlisted 2nd class electric contractors (who have A, B, C/B, C, contractory licence from Bangladesh Electric Licencing Board) for the undermentioned works. Tenders will be received by the undersigned and Executive Engineer, Public Works Division, Chandpur/Noakhali/B-baria/Feni/Laxmipur up to 12:00 Noon of 5/2/97 and will be opened on the same day at 12:15 PM in presence of the interested tenderers. Each tender in sealed cover superscribing name of works should be submitted in the tender box kept at the respective offices. No contractor/contractory firm can buy tender without having VAT registration.

a) Name of work

Supply & installation of 10 Horse Power 10-stage Turbine Pump Motor set at Doudkandi Thana Building in Comilla. Financial year-1996-97.

Taka 2,98,318/-

30 (thirty) days.

Taka 50,070/-

Estimated cost Earnest money Time for completion of work from the date of issuing of work order

Last date of selling: 4/2/97. tender schedule

3) Schedule consisting items of tender and terms & conditions can be seen and purchased on payment of Tk 400/- (four hundred) only (non-refundable) per set and Bangladesh Form No 2911 at Tk 25/- (twenty-five) only (non-refundable) each from the office of the undersigned and Executive Engineer, Public Works Division, Chandpur/Noakhali/B-baria/Feni/Laxmipur and from the offices of all Sub-Divisional Engineers under this Division. Tender schedule can be seen and bought up to 4-2-97. Tender schedule cannot be bought without producing VAT registration certificate and VAT registration certificate must be enclosed with the tender.

Tender will be decided through lottery at 11:30 AM of 15/2/97 at the office chamber of the Executive Engineer, Public Works Division, Comilla in presence of the tenderers (if any present) if more than one tender is received at the same rate.

Md Akhtarul Alam **Executive Engineer** DFP-1632-21/1 Comilla Public Works Division, Comilla Phone No 6935 G-298

construction of the proposed Kazirhat-Natakhola road Kazirhat-Natakhola road was would be constructed and there would be no problem like this needed and pending that improvement of the existing apwhen the construction of the proach road with sufficient prosaid road is completed. When asked whether tective arrangements were a Kazirhat-Natakhola road promust for keeping the road trafject was approved already, the fic system functioning norexecutive engineer told that it was on the process and pre-EC-NEC approval was already re-

"Since neither of the two steps could be taken before the ceived. Now it is awaiting final Holy Eid, traffic jam and traffic dislocation even at Natakhola-Nagarbari was very much aption, he said that fund would be made available with them after prehended by all," said the labour leader.

It may be recalled that already pressure of traffic via Natakhola ghat has increased enormously and alarmingly following recent collapse of railway ferry services between Teestamukh ghat and Bahadurabad and between Sirajganj and Jagannathganj ghats and stoppage of road communication via Sirajganj and Bhuapur ghats due to abnormal fall in the water level of the river Jamuna.

Rafiqul Islam, a transport workers' leader of North Bengal was also highly apprehensive and said, "Government indecision, lack of promptness in decision making, official redtapism were causing such sufferings to the people of North

Rafigul Islam said that there were genuine reasons for apprehending breakdown any moment as the government fails to take timely measures till writing of the report.

Tributes paid to Police patrol Akhteruzzaman boat capsizes Ilyas in Narayanganj

From Our Correspondent NARAYANGANJ, Jan 26: A patrol boat of Narayanganj PABNA, Jan 26: The Pabna river police was capsized in the district branch of Bangladesh Shitalakhya river Friday night Lekhak Shibir held an emerwhen an engine boat from opgency meeting for condoling the posite direction hit the patrol death of Akhteruzzaman Ilyas, boat at Madanganj point, rean eminent writer and novelist ports BSS. of the country. River police sources said, a Narayanganj bound engine boat

Held recently under the presidentship of Rezaul Haque Shafrom Munshiganj hit the patrol jahan, convenor of the district boat at about 9 pm Friday at committee of Lekhak Shibir. Madanganj point and three the condolence meeting was constables of the boat along also addressed, among others, with their rifles and 60 rounds by Mojibar Rahman, Amzad of bullets sank in the river. The Hossain, Filip Sanaddar, constables managed to swim Hemauta Kumar, Himel Shahriar, Mominur Rahman,

No. EPB/Fab/Free/Allot/39/96 Notice

Applications are invited from apparel manufacturing & exporting firms registered with the Fabric Cell for up to June, 1997 for import under all US & Canadian quota category and allotment under local fabric free quota during 1997 quota year.

Fabric Cell

Export Promotion Bureau

111-113, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka

1. Applications in Fabric Cell prescribed form up to 15th February, 1997.

2. Application should be made in the same application form for maximum eight categories.

3. Application should be made in separate forms for imported & local fabric.

4. Application form can be collected from the Fabric Cell Counter during office hours. Application can be deposited at the Fabric Cell Counter everyday during office hours up to 15.2.97.

5. Application submitted not properly filled in & signed will be treated as cancelled.

6. The authority reserves the right to reject any application without assigning any reason.

DFP-1477-18/1 G-299

A K M Fazlur Rahman Deputy Director

R&H Tender Invitation Notice

Tender Notice No Name of work

Supply of materials for manufacturing various furniture of wooden workshop under R&H, Workshop Division, Dhaka.

As per schedule. Estimated cost Earnest money

2% (two per cent) of the estimated cost should be submitted through BD/TC/Sanchay Patra/CD from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh Bank in favour of the Executive Engineer, R&H Workshop Division, Dhaka. 10% earnest money should be submitted before work

15 (fifteen) days from the date of Time for completion issuing work order.

Eligibility contractors

As per eligibility & rules, R&H. Directorate enlisted 'A' to 'E' class contractors. Can be bought at Tk 510/- per set (non-

Offices where tender & schedule Will be available

refundable) with Barigladesh Form No 2908 from Workshop Division, Dhaka, Executive Engineer, R&H, Workshop Division, Mymensingh up to the day before the receiving date of tender during office hours.

Superintending Engineer, R&H, Workshop

Circle, Tejgaon, Dhaka/Executive

Engineer, R&H, Workshop Division,

receive tender & schedule

> Tejgaon, Dhaka/Executive Engineer R&H, Workshop Division, Mymensingh.

Last date of selling 04-02-97 up to 12:00 Noon. 10. Last date & time of

receiving sealed tender 05-02-97 at 12:30 PM. Date & time of opening sealed tender

12. Date of lottery (if 05-02-97

13. Head of expenditure DFP-1476-20/1

G-296

2-Repair Md Humayun Rashid Khalipha Executive Engineer, R&H (Mechanical)

Workshop Division, Tejgaon, Dhaka

Equipment Control Division, Dhaka

under R&H. Workshop Division,

in favour of the Executive Engineer.

R&H, Workshop Division, Dhaka.

R&H, Tender Invitation Notice

161/EE/1996-97. Tender Notice No Name of work Supply of spare parts for repairing GT-12, Tyre Roller Chassis No. 019-058 Engine-809807 of (R&H)

Dhaka. As per schedule.

Estimated cost 2% (two per cent) of the estimated Earnest money cost should be submitted through BD/TC/Sanchay Patra/CD from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh Bank

10% of the earnest money should be submitted before work order. 15 (fifteen) days from the date of Time for :

issuing work order. completion of As per eligibility & rules, R&H Eligibility of: Directorate enlisted "A" to "E" class

contractors contractors. Can be purchased at Tk 260/- (non-Offices where refundable) with Bangladesh Form tender

No-2908 up to the day before the date schedule will be of receiving tender from Workshop available Division, Dhaka/Executive Engineer, R&H. Equipment Control Division, Dhaka during office hours.

Officers Offices receive the tender schedule

Workshop Circle, Tejgaon, Dhaka/ Executive Engineer, R&H, Workshop Division, Tejgaon, Dhaka/Executive Engineer, R&H, Equipment Control Division, Tejgaon, Dhaka. 15-2-97.

Superintending Engineer, R&H,

selling tender Last date and : 16-2-97 up to 12:00 Noon. time receiving sealed tender

Date & time of

Last date of :

18-2-97 at 12:30 PM.

opening sealed : 19-2-97 at 12:30 PM.

Date of lottery (if needed)

of: 2-Repair. Head expenditure Md Humayun Rashid Khalipha

> Executive Engineer, R&H (Mechanical)

DFP-1693-21/1 G-297 Workshop Division, Tejgaon, Dhaka

Executive Engineer DFP-1604-21/1 Dhaka.

bank of Bangladesh in favour of the Executive Engineer, E/M Division-3, CAAB, Kurmitola, Dhaka. Eligibility of the CAAB enlisted 'C' and above class

Estimated cost

Earnest money

- Precondition to purchase/set of tender schedule
- : Tk. 250/= (Taka two hundred fifty) Place of availability of tender
- a) Superintending Engineer, P&D/QS
- Place of tender receiving/opening
- Last date of tender selling
- 10. Date & time of
- : 13-2-97 (up to 1200 Noon). tender receiving Date & time of tender opening
- thereof without assigning any reason

E/M Division-3, CAAB, Kurmitola