

Fighting leaves 250 dead in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, Dec 5: Sri Lankan troops wiped out a Tamil rebel camp in northern Sri Lanka in a fierce nine-hour battle that left at least 250 dead on both sides, military and relief officials said Friday, reports AP.

Harasha Gunewardene, a spokesman for the International Committee of the Red Cross in Colombo, said rebels had handed over the bodies of 111 soldiers for the relief agency to pass on to military officials after Thursday's battle in the Wannu district, 200 kilometres (125 miles) north of the capital.

The Tamil Tiger guerrillas are fighting for an independent homeland in the north for minority Tamils, claiming they are discriminated against by the Sinhalese majority.

Sri Lankan military officials said they were still ascertaining how many soldiers were killed Thursday.

"I can confirm that there was real heavy fighting, but I can't give casualty figures," said military spokesman Major Kumara Dewage. "We are waiting for details, but I can tell you that the terrorists suffered heavily."

Other military officials and ICRC field staff in the northern government-held frontier town of Vavuniya said that at least 150 rebels were believed killed. The officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said they believe between 250 to 300 were wounded on both sides.

About 20 hours after the battle subsided, the military was still evacuating casualties to Vavuniya by helicopters from the nearby battle site.

The Sri Lankan government does not allow journalists in the area.

Fighting broke out Thursday morning after government troops surrounded a key Tamil Tiger camp.

Government troops are trying to capture the last miles (kilometres) of a highway linking the southern mainland to Jaffna, the former rebel stronghold captured by government troops nearly two years ago.

More than 700 soldiers and 2,500 rebels have died since the highway campaign was launched in May, and several hundred more have been wounded.

SC allows Imelda to go abroad for eye treatment

MANILA, Dec 5: The Philippine Supreme Court on Friday allowed former first lady Imelda Marcos to travel abroad for one month to get eye treatment, reports AP.

After a court hearing, Imelda told reporters she plans to leave soon for glaucoma treatment at the Harvard Medical School in Boston, Mass., and promised to be home before Christmas.

The widow of dictator Ferdinand Marcos has been denied permission to leave the country by the anti-graft court.

Serial killer jailed for over 2400 yrs

PRETORIA, Dec 5: A man convicted of 38 murders, 40 rapes and six robberies was sentenced to more than 2,400 years in prison today, reports AP.

Moses Sithole, 33, who raped and strangled dozens of women in the Johannesburg area over a period of several years, must spend the rest of his life in prison, Judge David Curlewis said.

South Africa abolished the death penalty under its post-apartheid constitution. Curlewis said that if given the option, he would have condemned Sithole to death.

Spectators at the court applauded when the sentence was announced.

Curlewis assessed the sentences to run consecutively, meaning Sithole in effect would serve 2,410 years in jail if he lived that long.

Sithole was sentenced to 12 years imprisonment on each of the 40 counts of rape, 50 years on each of the 38 counts of murder and five years each on the six robbery charges.

He would be eligible for parole after 25 years on the murder counts, but because of the consecutive sentencing, his parole would only become possible in 950 years.

Sithole, an ex-convict, lured many of his victims to secluded areas by promising them jobs. He strangled or shot to death 37 women, and some were sexually assaulted. A child of one of the victims also was killed.



Nobel Peace Prize laureate Jody Williams shakes hands with Canadian Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy prior to their joint news conference in Ottawa, Canada Thursday. — AP/UNB photo

Truth Commission to file charges against Botha

CAPE TOWN, Dec 5: A commission investigating apartheid-era human rights abuses said it will file criminal charges against former President PW Botha for failing to appear at a hearing on Friday, reports AP.

After meeting with Botha's lawyers, Truth and Reconciliation Commission chairman Desmond Tutu said the charges would be filed later Friday morning with the attorney general in Cape Town.

Botha, 81, was issued a subpoena to appear at a commis-

sion hearing Friday regarding the State Security Council, the highest security body of the apartheid governments that Botha headed in the 1980s.

The commission is holding a special two-day hearing on the commission to try to figure out who gave orders for routine killings and torture by police.

Under the law creating the Truth Commission, anyone refusing to obey a subpoena can be charged with contempt and punished with a fine and up to two years in prison.

R&H Tender Invitation Notice

- Tender Notice No : 130/EE WD, Dhaka/1997-98
 - Name of work : Supply of spare parts for repair of Pajero jeep Dhaka-Metro-Gha-02-0837 of (R&H) Administration & Establishment, Dhaka under R&H Workshop Division, Dhaka
 - Estimated cost : Taka as per schedule
 - Earnest money : 2% (two per cent) of the estimated cost should be submitted as per Govt rules.
 - Time for completion of work : 15 (fifteen) days from the date of issuing work order.
 - Eligibility of contractor : R&H Directorate enlisted all class contractors as per financial & zonal eligibility.
 - Offices where schedule to be had at : Can be purchased at Tk 510/= (non-refundable) per set including Bangladesh Form No 2911 from Workshop Division, Dhaka/Executive Engineer, R&H, Workshop Division, Mymensingh during office hours up to the day before the date of receiving tender.
 - Officers & offices to receive the tender & schedule : Superintendent Engineer, Workshop Circle, Tejgaon, Dhaka/Executive Engineer R&H, Workshop Division, Tejgaon, Dhaka/Executive Engineer, Workshop Division, Mymensingh.
 - Last date of selling tender : 14-12-97
 - Last date & time of receiving sealed tender : 15-12-97 up to 12:00 Noon.
 - Date & time of opening sealed tender : 17-12-97 at 12:30 PM.
 - Date of lottery (if required) : 17-12-97 at 2:30 PM.
 - Head of expenditure : T&R
- Md. Humayun Rashid Khalifa
Executive Engineer, R&H (Mechanical)
Workshop, Division
Tejgaon Dhaka
- DFP-27062-30/11
G-3016

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of the Civil Surgeon, Jhalakati Memo No. CS/Jhal/Tender/97/2167 Dated: 23-11-97 Tender Notice

Sealed tenders are invited from bona fide tree planting firms/contractors for tree plantation at Jhalakati Sadar Hospital premises vide Project Director's Memo No. 18 Dist DP/Arbori Jhal/96/1609 dated 30-10-97 under 18 District Hospitals Development Project of IDA Credit No. 2259 BD, Fourth Population and Health Project under Government of People's Republic of Bangladesh.

All terms and conditions of tree plantation are attached to the tender schedule.

Tender schedule will be sold through submission of application to Civil Surgeon, Jhalakati from the office of the civil surgeon, Jhalakati at Tk 400/= (four hundred) only in cash (non-refundable) during office hours from 9-12-97 to 14-12-97.

Tenderer should submit experience certificate of tree planting worth up to Taka five lakh earlier. Bank Draft/Pay Order/ Bank Guarantee for Tk 5000/= (five thousand) only as earnest money from any scheduled bank in favour of Civil Surgeon, Jhalakati should be attached with the tender.

Tender in sealed condition should be deposited in box at the office of the Civil Surgeon, Jhalakati by 12-00 (twelve) Noon of 15-12-97 and the tenders will be opened on the same day at 12-30 PM by the Tender Committee (in presence of tenderers, if any present).

The Tender Committee reserves the right to reject any tender or accept any tender or reject all tenders without assigning any reason.

DFP-26920-27/11
G-3017
Dr Md Abdur Rashid
Civil Surgeon, Jhalakati

Lunar prospector to be launched next month

WASHINGTON, Dec 5: The launch next month of an unmanned mission to collect scientific data on the moon comes ahead of grander plans to create a human presence there, reports AP.

The launch of the Lunar Prospector — a cylinder crammed with scientific instruments — also will mark the return of moon exploration a quarter-century after the last Apollo Mission.

Preparations for the launch are going ahead normally, flight director Scott Hubbard told reporters here Thursday.

Lunar Prospector will lift off January 5 and achieve a relatively low orbit to 100 kilometres (62 miles) around the moon. Prospector will map its cratered surface, 75 per cent of which remains uncharted.

Prospector also will attempt to detect the presence of water, a US military satellite has previously spotted what might be Lunar ice.

The presence of water on the moon could allow man to set up a permanent base there for exploring other planets such as Mars.

However, Michael Drake, a Lunar and Planetary geologist at the University of Arizona in Tucson, said Lunar water was not crucial for colonising the moon.

'More illegal firearms in SA than legal ones'

PRETORIA, Dec 5: There are more illegal firearms in South Africa than legal ones. Deputy Safety and Security Minister Joe Matthews said here Thursday, reports AP.

Matthews told a press conference that there were 3.67 million licenced firearms in the country compared to an estimated four million illegal ones.

The government, he said was greatly concerned about the proliferation of illegal weapons because it contributed to the continuing high level of crime in South Africa.

Statistics showed that in 1996, firearms were used in 41 per cent of the murders and 76 per cent of the robberies committed in the country.

Matthews attributed the mass of illegal firearms mainly to an influx from neighbouring African states, to criminals who made firearms at home and to corrupt arms dealers.

In Mozambique and Angola, programmes had to be introduced where people were offered incentives to hand in illegal firearms.

Judge asks Paula Jones to handover more documents

LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas, Dec 5: A judge directed the woman who has accused US President Bill Clinton of sexual harassment to give his lawyers 103 more pages of documents detailing fund raising, public relations efforts and tax returns for a legal fund set up in 1994, reports AP.

The ruling settled a dispute on whether scores of Paula Corbin Jones' legal fund documents should be shared or whether they were covered by attorney-client privilege and exempt from scrutiny by Clinton's lawyers.

Judge Susan Webber Wright ruled that documents involving trial strategy and settlement negotiations were privileged, but documents involving fund raising, public relations strategy and tax returns were not.

Wright told Mrs. Jones' lawyers to turn over the documents no later than Monday.

On Tuesday, Cindy Hays, who used to run Mrs. Jones' legal fund, is scheduled to give a deposition.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Department of Environment Paribesh Bhaban E-16, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207 Memo No. Paribesh/Tech/Rgnl/lab (Vehicle Purchase)/38/96/2390 Dated: 25/11/97

Notice Inviting Tender No. 03 (1997-98)

Sealed tenders in prescribed form are hereby invited from the bona fide Agents in Bangladesh for supplying of 1500-4200 CC, 4WD, Single Cabin, 3 (three) Seated 2 (two) Pick-up (Toyota, Mitsubishi, Nissan, Isuzu, & Landrover) according to the government standardization under the Improvement of Regional Laboratories and Development of Decentralised Infrastructure of the Department of Environment Project being implemented by the Department of Environment, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

Tender documents shall be available on payment (non-refundable) of Tk. 100/- (one hundred) only in the office of the undersigned at Paribesh Bhaban, Plot-E-16, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207 on all working days during office hours up to 17-12-97 on submission of written application only by the eligible bidders. All the tender should be dropped in the tender box to be kept in front of the office chamber of the undersigned on 18-12-97 up to 12:00 Noon and open on the same day at 12:30 PM. No tender documents shall be sold on the opening day.

The bidders shall submit their tenders with catalogue/brochure accordingly and will have to submit tenders along with earnest money 2.5% of the total quoted amount in the form of Pay Order/Bank Draft from any scheduled bank in favour of the undersigned. The authority shall not bear any cost related to preparation and submission of tender.

In case any bidder wish to submit more than one tender for different brand should be submitted in separate schedule along with requisite earnest money. If any bidder submit more than one offer in single schedule will be treated as cancelled.

The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever. Incomplete tenders will be rejected directly.

Md. Shahjahan
Project Director
Improvement of Regional Laboratories and Development of Decentralised Infrastructure of Department of the Environment Project.

DFP-27165-1/12
G-3011

R&H Tender Invitation Notice

- Tender Notice No : 134/EE WD, Dhaka/1997-98
 - Name of work : Supply of spare parts for repair of GT Roller No. 12 of (R&H) Equipment Control Division, Dhaka under R&H Workshop Division, Dhaka.
 - Estimated cost : Taka as per schedule.
 - Earnest money : 2% (two per cent) of the estimated cost should be submitted as per Govt rules.
 - Time for completion of work : 15 (fifteen) days from the date of issuing work order.
 - Eligibility of contractor : R&H Directorate enlisted all class contractors as per financial & zonal eligibility.
 - Offices where schedule to be had at : Can be purchased at Tk 510/= (non-refundable) per set including Bangladesh Form No. 2911 from Workshop Division, Dhaka/Executive Engineer R&H, Workshop Division, Mymensingh during office hours up to the day before the date of receiving tender.
 - Officers & offices to receive the tender & schedule : Superintendent Engineer, Workshop Circle, Tejgaon, Dhaka/Executive Engineer R&H, Workshop Division, Tejgaon, Dhaka/Executive Engineer, Workshop Division, Mymensingh.
 - Last date of selling tender : 14-12-97
 - Last date & time of receiving sealed tender : 15-12-97 up to 12:00 Noon.
 - Date & time of opening sealed tender : 17-12-97 at 12:30 PM.
 - Date of lottery (if required) : 17-12-97 at 2:30 PM.
 - Head of expenditure : 2-repair
- Md. Humayun Rashid Khalifa
Executive Engineer, R&H (Mechanical)
Workshop Division
Tejgaon, Dhaka.
- DFP-27061-30/11
G-3019

Directorate General Defence Purchase Ministry of Defence New Airport Road, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215 Tender Notice

1. Sealed tender in local/foreign currency are invited from bonafide manufactures/suppliers/dealer's (enlistment with this Directorate General is not necessary) for supply of following items for Bangladesh Army:

Ser	Nomenclature	Qty	Selling date	Date of opening	Cost of I/T and currency
1.	Spares for Radio Set VRC-64 and Telephone Set TA-312/PT.	25 Line Items	07-12-97 to 18-1-98	19-1-98	50.00 (Both Currency)
2.	Spares for Binocular Sx30 PKC (Pak)	05 Line Items	-do-	-do-	20.00 (Foreign Currency)
3.	Spares for 106 MM RR M40A2&M40A1	05 Line Items	-do-	-do-	20.00 (Foreign Currency)

2. Detailed specification, nomenclatures and quantity of items have been mentioned in the tender schedule. The tender schedule will be available on cash payment against the mentioned amount (not refundable) at abovementioned dates on any working day between 0800 hrs to 1300 hrs. The tender will be opened on aforesaid date at 1000 hrs in presence of all tenderers.

ISPR/Misc/97/958
DFP-26866-26/11
G-3015

Major
For Director General

PWD Tender Notice No. 7 (C) 1997-98

Sealed tenders in Bangladesh Form No 2911 are invited from Public Works Directorate enlisted sanitary contractors as per financial class capacity for completion of the undermentioned work. Tenders will be received in the tender box kept at the office of the undersigned and offices of all Executive Engineers under Mymensingh Public Works Circle up to 12:00 Noon of 15/12/97 and will be opened on the same day at 12:15 PM before the tenderers (if any) present. Interested contractors themselves or their authorised representatives whose signature should have attested on the authorisation letter can purchase documents of tender from the offices of each abovementioned Executive Engineer during office hours on all work days up to 14/12/97. Other terms & conditions can be seen at this office during office hours. If the price quoted by more than one valid tenderer for the undermentioned work happens to be the same, then the contractor will be selected through lottery at the office chamber of the undersigned at 11:00 AM of 24/12/97. Construction firms should produce original copy of registration certificate of the Value Added Tax Department at the time of purchasing tender for the undermentioned work and attested copy of the certificate should be attached with the tender. Otherwise tender will be treated as cancelled.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Time limit
1.	Under 44 newly built Zila Sadar construction project one at Kishoreganj, Sub Head-Swage & water supply of the Medical Investigation Building of Kishoreganj Police Line. Financial year 1997-98.	Tk 2,71,773/=	Tk 5,440/=	60 (sixty) days.

Md Sirajul Haq
Executive Engineer
Kishoreganj Public Works Division, Kishoreganj
Phone: 351

DFP-27035-30/11
G-3018

Auction Notice Inviting Tenders No. 2 (S)/97-98

Sealed auction tenders in BD Form No. 2911 are hereby invited from all classes enlisted contractors of PWD and trade license holder merchants as noted below for the undermentioned work and will be received by the undersigned as well as by the Divnl. Commissioner, Rajshahi Division/Executive Engineer, PWD Divn., Bogra/Joypurhat in their respective offices up to 12:00 Noon on 21-12-97 Eng. and will be opened on the same day at 12:30 PM in presence of the tenderers who may like to remain present. Each tender shall be in a separate sealed cover with the name of work superscribed on it.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Class of contractor enlisted to submit tender
1.	Tender for auction sale of Office Bldg, Cell Ward, Kitchen, Latrine, Perimeter Wall & Police Barrack of Sub-Jail at Sirajganj.	Quoted amount	@10% of quoted amount	Enlisted all classes contractors of PWD and trade license holder merchant.

Contract document consisting BD Form No. 2911, schedule of items, statement, additional terms and conditions etc. can be seen and obtained from the office of the undersigned and Office of the Divnl. Commissioner, Rajshahi, Division/Executive Engineer, PWD Divn., Bogra/Joypurhat and Sub-Divnl. Engineer, PWD Sub-Divn., Sirajganj/Ullapara/E/M. Sub-Divn. Sirajganj on payment of usual charges. The tender form may be purchased by the contractor himself or his representative duly authorised by the contractor along with the original registration book on any day during office hours up to 18-12-97 Eng. No tender form will be sold after office hours of 18-12-97 Eng.

Photocopy of original registration book and VAT Registration Certificate and Trade License Certificate (Attested by a Gazetted Officer of this Department) must be submitted along with the tender otherwise the tender will be summarily rejected.

DFP-27310-2/12
G-3014

Executive Engineer
PWD Divn., Sirajganj
Phone No. 72501

RHD Notice Inviting Tenders

1.	Tender Notice No	04/SRD/1997-98.
2.	Name of work	Earth work on Road embankment and protective work with CC block on road slope at 19th KM of Thakurakuna-Mohangonj-Dharmapasha-Jamalgonj-Sunamgonj Road under Sunamgonj Road Division during the year 1997-98 (Ch to 266 Dev) in 3 (three) groups.
3.	Estimated cost	As per group list.
4.	Earnest money	As per group list.
5.	Time allowed	As per group list.
6.	Eligibility of contractor	As per group list.
7.	Name of the offices where tender documents will be available	Office of the undersigned/Divisional Commissioner, Sylhet/Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Sylhet/M Bazar/Hobigonj/Planning & Design, Comilla/Planning (R&B) Dhaka/SDE (RHD) Sunamgonj/Chatak/Mechanical.
8.	Name of the officers who will receive the tenders	Undersigned/Addl Chief Engineer, RHD, Comilla Zone, Comilla/Divisional Commissioner, Sylhet/Superintending Engineer, RHD, Road Circle, Sylhet/Monitoring & Evaluation Circle, Dhaka.
9.	Tender will be opened by	Undersigned.
10.	Last date of selling tender	At 5:00 PM of 14.12.97.
11.	Last date of receiving tender	At 12:30 PM of 15.12.97.
12.	Date & time of opening tender	At 11:30 AM of 22.12.97.
13.	Date & time of lottery	At 11:30 AM of 23.12.97.
14.	Group list	

Gr No	Name of road & location	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Time allowed	Eligibility of contractors
I (one)	Earth work on Road embankment and protective work with CC block at 19th KM (Ch 0.0 to 200m) of Thakurakuna-Mohangonj-Dharmapasha-Jamalgonj-Sunamgonj Road.	15,01,463/-	30,030/-	45 (forty-five) days	'A' to 'D' general categories of RHD.
II (two)	-do- -do- 19th KM (Ch 200m to 400m)	15,95,683/-	31,914/-	-do-	-do-
III (three)	19th KM (Ch 400m to 600m)	15,50,923/-	31,019/-	-do-	-do-

DFP-26988-27/11
G-3013

Md Harun
Executive Engineer, RHD (CC)
Sunamgonj Road Division.