

Strict measures to check air pollution in the offing

The three agencies responsible for ensuring a clean city have offered plans to fight air pollution caused by nearly 2,50,000 black smoke-emitting vehicles to save lives of the capital's eight million people, officials said yesterday, reports BSS.

The Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) says it wants amendment to Article 150 (I) of Motor Vehicles Act to allow Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) to be tough in issuing fitness certificates.

And the BRTA says it is setting up sophisticated equipment, costing the exchequer some Tk 380 million, for checking vehicles before issuing such certificates.

The other partner of the tripartite, the Department of Environment (DOE), says the Environment Protection Bill, 1994, passed by the parliament has given the agency the power to fight air pollution.

The bill empowers DOE to send a person to jail for a maximum period of five years or impose a fine up to Tk 100,000, or both should he be found guilty of polluting air.

Many agree that strict control in granting fitness certificate with honesty may check air pollution to a great extent.

Both the three agencies, however, agree that the Motor Vehicles Act of 1983 should be further amended in order to increase fine up to Tk 5,000 from the current Tk 200 for the violators of the traffic rules.

Abdul Qadir Jilani's death anniversary to be observed on Aug 4

The anniversary of death of Hazrat Bara Peer Abdul Qadir Jilani (RA) will be observed at Bogdadia Darbar Sharif of Shahsuji Baba Hazrat Syed Shah at Tongi on August 4, reports BSS.

On the occasion, *fateha*, *zikir*, *waz* and *milad mahfil* and special prayers will be held seeking divine blessing and peace of the Muslim *ummah*.

Musallis have been invited to attend the programmes.

Ethan Allen showroom opens in city

By Staff Correspondent
Syed Istiaq Ahmed, former advisor of the caretaker government, inaugurated the Ethan Allen showroom in the city yesterday evening.

Theodore Nist, the Charge d' Affaires of the US Embassy, was the special guest on the occasion.

Nasreen Zamir and Associates is local counterpart of Ethan Allen, the US-based furniture manufacture company. This is Ethan Allen's 29th store outside the US, the organisers informed.

"Avaling of Ethan Allen collections in Bangladesh is a first step towards importing not only an internationally recognised high grade skill but also setting up of a reference of quality for locally made furniture products," Nasrin Zamir told The Daily Star following the inauguration.



Barrister Syed Istiaq Ahmed, former advisor to the caretaker govt, seen inaugurating the showroom of Ethan Allen in the city yesterday. —Star photo

Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh
Office of the Director, CEMSU, Kurmitola, Dhaka-1229

"গাছ লাগান, গাছের পরিচর্যা করুন এবং পরিবেশকে বাঁচান" — প্রধানমন্ত্রী
"বিমান বন্দরকে পরিষ্কার রাখুন"

Notice Inviting Tender

Separate sealed tender is hereby invited from the CAAB enlisted E/M contractor's for the following works which will be received up to 1200 hrs on 13/8/98 and will be opened on the same day at 12:15 hrs in presence of the tenderers or their authorised representatives (if any).

Tender No	Name of work	Price of schedule
CEMSU/EM/T&P-02/98-99	O&M of T&P equipment (S.H. Repairing, Overhauling, Testing & Commissioning of 6-Cylinder diesel engine 12 ton capacity, 3 wheel Road Roller (SAKAI, Model KD-7610 (RR-9) at Osmani Airport, Sylhet.	Tk. 250/00
CEMSU/EM/T&P-03/98-99	-do- (SH: Providing and lifting/fixing of Bearing Hot Elevator system of Asphalt Plant SRM-50 at Osmani Airport, Sylhet.	Tk 250/00

Earnest money @2.5% (Two and half per cent) of the quoted amount (refundable) must be submitted alongwith the tender in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order drawn on any schedule Bank of Bangladesh in favour of Director, CEMSU, CAAB, Kurmitola, Dhaka.

Tender papers alongwith terms and conditions and schedule of items of work may be had from Cash Section of the Office of the Director (Finance) CAAB, HQ and the Director, CEMSU, CAAB, Dhaka during office hours on payment of the price of schedule mentioned above against the name of work (non-refundable). The intending tenderers having experience in similar work may apply in their own letter heads enclosing an experience certificate of similar work issued by an officer not below the rank of an Executive Engineer to the abovementioned office's for purchase of tender documents. No tender paper will be sold on the date fixed for opening of tender. Other terms and conditions can be seen in the Office of the Director, CEMSU, CAAB, Dhaka.

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

AFM Arshad Ali
Deputy Director (E/M)
For: Director,
CEMSU, CAAB, Kurmitola, Dhaka-1229

Workshop on job interview skills held

A 'Mock Interview' workshop was held yesterday at the British Council Auditorium to help the young people to develop their employment interview skills says a press release.

Organised by The Daily Star Young Entrepreneurs and Professionals Group and Coordinated by CENCE President and NSU faculty Quazi Mahmud Ahmed, the workshop attracted an impressive crowd of 400 young people comprised of graduating students, unemployed youths and young professionals from various walks of life.

The mock interview panel consisted of the following diverse group of specialists and corporate recruiters: Mehboobur Rehman, Head, Group HRD, Transcom; Rini Reza, Assistant Representative, UNDP; Ashfaqur Rahman,

Human Resources Manager, Novartis and Syed Nasim Monzur, Director, Apex Tannery Group. Congratulating the Young Entrepreneurs and Professionals Group for organizing the workshop.

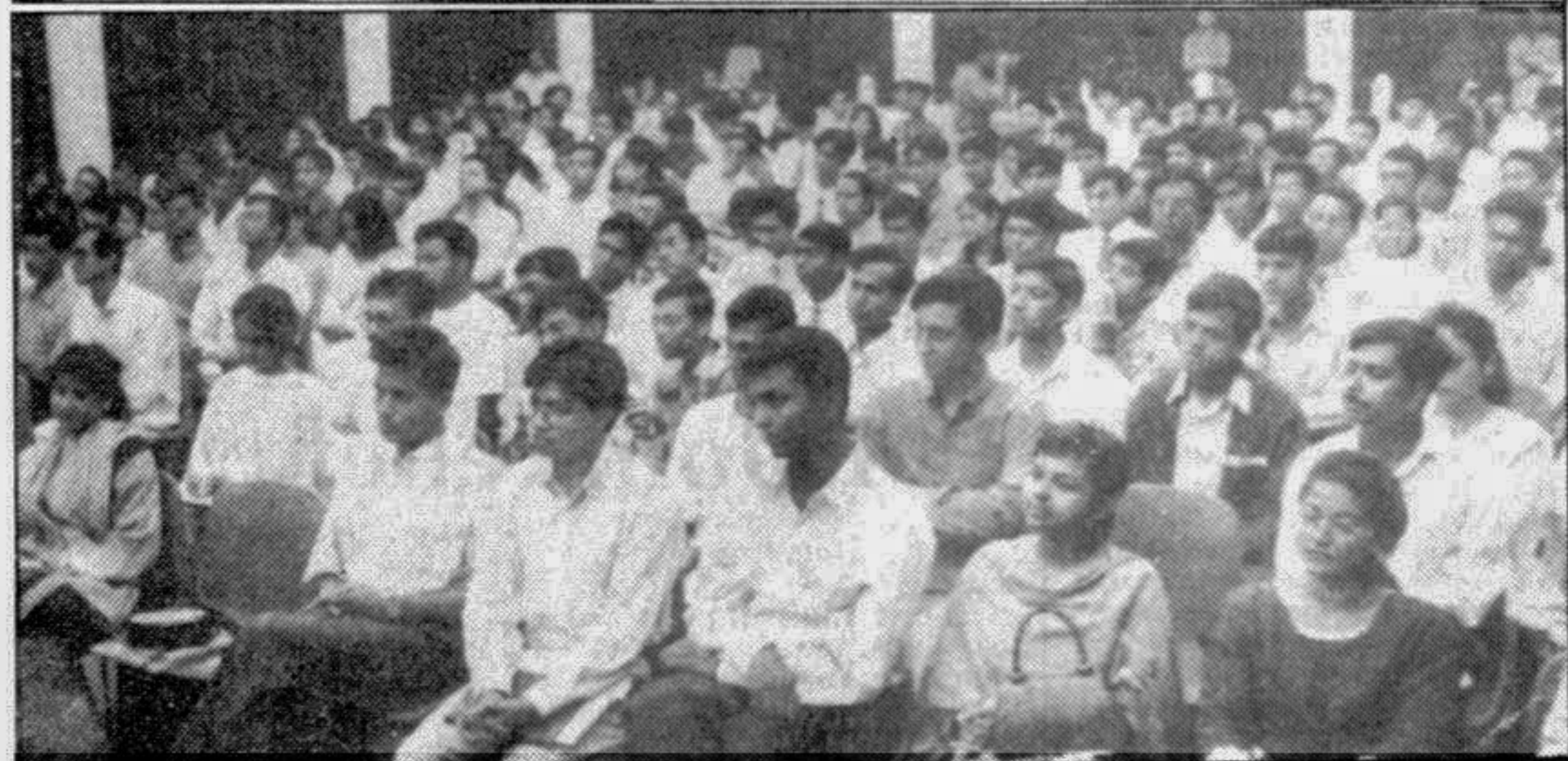
The Daily Star Editor Mahfuz Anam said that, "The Daily Star is committed to promoting the youth and we sincerely believe that if Bangladesh is to make a mark in the 21st century, then it is people like you who will have to do it".

Amidst an enthusiastic and attentive audience to whom this was an innovative approach to improve upon their job interview skills, the mock interview board conducted 7 spontaneous interviews from among the participants who were present at the event.

These randomly selected interviewees were: Tanim Laila,

and Barna Ahmed, both graduating students IBA, Dhaka University; Md Azmal Huiq, MBA candidate, Stamford College; IUB environmental studies graduate Shahpar Selim, English Teacher of Bhuyani Computers Ltd, Parvez Ahmed; Abdullah al Aabed, North South University; and Nurul Hassan Khan, SB College of Business Administration, National University. After the informative question and answer session,

Quazi Mahmud Ahmed gave a brief presentation on successful interview skills which was based on the 7-page handout that was distributed among the participants. Rafi Hossain, Nasrin, Omar Sadat, Safi Khan — all of them members of The Daily Star Young Entrepreneurs and Professionals Group were also present on the occasion.



The Daily Star Young Entrepreneurs and Professionals Forum held a "Mock Interview" workshop yesterday at the British Council. The workshop was organised to assist young professionals to do better in job interviews. Photos show (above) mock interview sessions in progress, and (below) nearly 400 young professionals watching the training session. — Star photo

Cross-border smuggling in Chuadanga, Meherpur dists decreasing significantly

Cross-border smuggling in Chuadanga and Meherpur districts decreased significantly during the last six months following strict vigilance by Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) and police, officials said, reports BSS.

Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) officials said smuggled goods seized during the period was much lower than that of the

previous occasions which they attributed to the success of stringent measures taken by the BDR to check cross-border smuggling.

They said BDR personnel seized smuggled goods worth Taka nine crore in the last year. But strict vigilance has significantly checked smuggling and during the past six months we have seized smuggled goods only worth about Taka 1.25 crore, said Lieutenant Colonel Khaled Reza, commanding officer of 28 BDR battalion posted on the 140-kilometre border line of the region.

Mohammad Nazmul Haque, Superintendent of Chuadanga police told the agency that police have also stepped up their anti-smuggling activities in the bordering districts and working hand to hand with BDR in the bordering district.

BDR officials said a total of 1125 smuggling cases were lodged and 30 smugglers were arrested during the last six months.

On June 21, a team of BDR personnel seized 1500 kilograms of smuggled sugar from a Khulna-bound local train at Jibonagar railway station.

The BDR and police officials said smuggling can not be prevented without the co-operation of people from all walks of life.

They said a section of people from the bordering villages are involved in smuggling and they

are not interested to appear before the court as witnesses against any smuggler.

A BSS correspondent while visiting the areas observed that the distance between the two border posts is nearly eight kilometres and the total strength of BDR at a border post ranges between 13 and 22.

A patrol party of four BDR personnel are guarding three to four kilometres border without any vehicle or road communications.

Usually, when a patrol party goes to watch one direction, the smugglers cross the border through the other direction.

Local people told the reporters that construction of roads and observation towers in the bordering areas and increase of BDR manpower are needed to prevent smuggling across the borders.

The smuggling of cattlehead from across the border dropped considerably during the current year compared to the last few years.

This was evident from realisation of customs taxes being imposed on smuggled cattlehead by the government, officials sources said.

The government has imposed taxes on cattlehead coming from across the border in 1994.

The customs officials at Gurdah and Carpasdanga stations realised Taka 65,70,900 as tax on cattlehead during last year while Taka 8,49,000 was realised during last six months from January to June from these two stations.

BOU workshop

The Vice-Chancellor of Bangladesh Open University (BOU) Prof M Aminul Islam said the university provides Thursday education facilities for all — from grandfathers to grandsons, reports BSS.

Speaking at a workshop on BOU's BELT (Bachelor of English Language Teaching) programme at NAEM, he said this programme is turning out skilled teachers and providing facilities of learning English language for workers and housewives.

Organised by BOU's School of Social Science, Humanities and Language, the workshop was attended by 70 tutors, coordinators and directors of regional centres.

Milad mahfil

A *milad mahfil* on the occasion of *aid-e-Miladunnabi* will be held at 3:30 pm at the Mohammadpur Preparatory and Girls' High School in the city today, reports UNB.

Merazul Mominat, a religious women's organisation, will organise the *milad*, said a press release.

Matia visits rice research centre in Hoogly

The Minister for Food and Agriculture, Matia Chowdhury, spent a busy day in West Bengal yesterday. She is there at the invitation of the government of India, according to a message received in the city yesterday, reports BSS.

The minister visited the Rice Research Station at Chinsurah in Hoogly district where she exchanged views with the researchers, scientists and officials on possible areas of cooperation on agriculture and horticulture cultivation. She showed keen interest in development of saline tolerant varieties of rice begun developed by West Bengal, which she said would help Bangladesh to overcome its problems of salinity.

In the discussions both sides agreed that in view of the commonality of constraints and challenges faced by Bangladesh and West Bengal in agricultural development, there is wide scope for joint and collaborative ventures that would be mutually beneficial for both countries. The minister also visited some model rice, horticulture and mushroom cultivation schemes run by the research station and shown keen interest in those programmes.

Matia Chowdhury also visited a *Panchayat Samity* in the district and exchanged views with the elected representatives and officials of the local government body on the methods and areas of activities of local government bodies in West Bengal.

The chairman of the Hoogly Zilla Parishad, Shiv Prasad Mukherjee was present during the visit.

Youth training centre to be constructed in Rangamati

RANGAMATI, July 24: A youth training centre will be constructed in the district at a cost of Tk three crore, reports UNB.

State Minister for Youth, Sports and Cultural Affairs, Obaidul Quader yesterday visited the site of the proposed youth training centre.

When completed, nearly 100 trainees will be imparted training on poultry, pisciculture, beef fattening and computer with residential facilities.

The minister directed the concerned officials to complete the construction of the centre within the shortest possible time with a view to expanding the youth development activities.

Later, the minister visited a poultry farm and sewing project of youths who were imparted training and given financial help by the Directorate of Youth Development.

Tribal Welfare Task Force Affairs chairman on CHT, Dipanker Talukder, MP, and Rangamati Local Government Council chairman Ching Quroaza were present on the occasion.

Court in Ctg issues summons on Editor of Dainik Purbokone

Abdur Rahman Patwari, Chairman (District and Sessions Judge) of the First Labour Court of Chittagong on July 21 issued summons on three persons including the Editor of the Dainik Purbokone in a criminal case filed by President of the Chittagong Union of Journalists (CUJ) Anjan Kumar Sen, reports BSS.

A CUJ press release issued yesterday said that the court also directed the three accused persons — Tashlim Uddin Ahmed, Jashimuddin Ahmed and Ramizuddin Ahmed, Editor, Publisher and Managing Director of the daily to appear personally before the court by August 6 next.

Anjan Kumar Sen, who resigned from the daily from the post of a senior staff reporter, lodged the case for violation of Articles 5 (2) of the Wage Act of 1936. The plaintiff sought relief under Article 20 (1) of the same act for non-payment of his legal dues by the management of the daily.

Consultant of the Chittagong chapter of Asian-American free labour institute Advocate Sukhamoy Chakrabarti appeared for the petitioner.

'Steps should be taken to ensure fair price of jute to growers'

Director General of Bangladesh Jute Research Institute (BJRI) Thursday said that steps should be taken to ensure reasonable price of jute to growers to encourage the increase in per acre yield of jute by frustrating the monopoly of a section of buyers, reports BSS.

He also stressed the need for joint efforts of both the researchers and the entrepreneurs for diversification of jute and jute goods to boost the country's economy.

Dr S M Elias, who joined the institute in May last as the Director General, said a proposal to set up an economic and marketing cell in the BJRI is under consideration of the government. The proposed project has been already approved by the Planning Commission.

About the commercial use of research findings of the BJRI, Elias said initiatives are being taken to have interaction with industrial entrepreneurs, NGOs and related organisations so that they can use the BJRI patents.

He said the BJRI has already signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Grameen Udyog in this regard. The organisation is evaluating the process to sign another MOU with the Sonali Ash, a jute industry, for developing a low-cost spinning machine, he added.

The BJRI is researching on making the jute-made shopping bag cheaper and is close to evolving jute-leaf powder, which is of high demand in East Asia, as specially in Japan, the DG said.

About the agricultural research of the BJRI, he said the organisation has developed 28 varieties of yields since its inception. Of which seven are in

cultivation. Besides, 7000 germ plasm are stored in BJRI laboratory for breeding new varieties.

He said the achievements of agricultural research of the BJRI includes favourable shift to more *tossa* jute cultivation, fitting jute in three crop patterns, improved cultural practices, seasonal separation of fibre and seed production, plant protection devices and improved rotting practices.

The chairman of the court, who is also the District and Session Judge, directed the authorities to appear before the court by July 27 with all relevant papers and documents.

In another case, the First Labour Court Chittagong declared termination of three journalists by the daily Naya-Bangla management as illegal and directed to reinstate them in their posts and clear their outstanding salaries and benefits with retrospective effects.

The judgement was given in three separate cases filed by Nirmal Chandra Das, Jamaluddin Yusuf and Abdus Sukkur of the daily who were illegally terminated from services by the management of the daily.

CRF apex body

Rezanur Rahman of the Daily Ittefaq has been elected the president of Cultural Reporters Forum (CRF) for the year 1998-2000, a release of CRF said in the city yesterday.

The other executives of the CRF are: Vice-president Ashishur-Rahman Shuva (Janakantha), general secretary Nripen Biswas (Ajker Kagoj), joint secretary Mahub Matin (Sangbad), organising secretary Rahman Mustafiz (UNB-Bangla service), finance secretary Nashrat Arshiana Chowdhury (Manab Jamin), office secretary Sarwar-e-Alam (Weekly Robbar), press and publication secretary Rajib Noor (Bhorer Kagoj), research and information secretary Salahuddin Bablu (Inqilab), international affairs secretary M. Chowdhury (BSS), cultural affairs secretary Prottya Jashim (Muktakantha) and executive members — Mahmuda Chowdhury (Dinkal) Shaheen Chowdhury (Khabar), Joyanta Acharya (Provat), Humayun Kabir (Banglabazar), Morshed Naseer (Annyadin) and Selim Kamal (Binodan Bichitra), the release added.

Bangladesh Forest Industries Development Corporation
Rubber Division
Sylhet Zone, Srimangal, Moulvibazar

Tender No-10 Dated: 14/07/98

Tender Notice

Tenders are invited from interested contractors for the completion of undermentioned work/supply in rubber gardens under BFIDC, Rubber Division, Sylhet Zone, Srimangal. Schedule containing detailed description can be procured from Accounts Section of this office till 02-08-98 during office hours on payment of usual fee (non-refundable) in cash. Tenderers will have to be dropped in the tender box kept at the office till 1:00 PM on 03-08-98 during office hours and will be opened the same day at 1:10 PM in presence of the participants in tender (if anyone present).

Serial No	Description of work	Place of work	Quantity
1.	Fire wood	For 4 gardens	48,000 cubic feet
2.	Earthen bowl	-do-	3,00,000
3.	Plain sheet	-do-	300
4.	GI wire	-do-	80 hander
5.	Taping bucket (big)	-do-	600
6.	Taping bucket (small)	-do-	400
7.	Taping knife	-do-	1,200
8.	Formic Acid	-do-	5,000 kg
9.	CC Powder	-do-	3,000 kg
10.	Whetstone	-do-	200 pieces
11.	Printing and stationery goods	-do-	As per schedule

DFP-15746/20-7-98
G-1674

Nurul Islam
General Manager

Metalex Corporation Limited (BSEC)
99, Tongi Industrial Area
Tongi, Gazipur

International Re-Tender Notice

Re-International sealed tenders are hereby invited by Metalex Corporation Limited (BSEC), 99, Tongi Industrial Area, Tongi, Gazipur for import of the following materials:

S1 No	Tender No	Description of materials	Last date & time of closing	Last date & time of opening	Cost of tender documents (non-refundable)	Source of fund
1.	MCL/IMP/119/98	Capacitor	12-8-1998 at 11-00 AM	12-8-1998 at 11-10 AM	Tk 100/- (Tk one hundred) only non-refundable.	OECF loan/cash/Grand/IDA Credit/SEM etc.

Tender documents are available in Cash Section of Bangladesh Steel & Engineering Corporation, BSEC Bhaban, 102, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka and Cash Section, Metalex Corporation Ltd, 99, Tongi Industrial Area, Tongi, Gazipur.

No tender documents will be sold on the opening day of tender.

NB: Due to unavoidable circumstances, if the tender will not be open on the due date, the tender will be open on next office day at the same time and place.

No-BSEC/PRD/012
DFP-15739-20/7
G-1671