

News snaps

Sale of foodgrains thru' dealers

BANDARBAN, Mar 3 : The sale of foodgrains through the dealers began in the district from Saturday to help the low-income group people and to keep the price in the market stable, reports UNB.

The government fixed the rate of per kg rice at Tk 13 and wheat Tk 8.5. The dealers are selling the grains to the needy and poor people and priority is being given to the low income group employees of government and semi-government offices and the teachers of the primary educational institutions. The authorities distributed cards among the poor people earlier for this purpose, said the sources adding that 90 metric tons of rice and similar quantity of wheat would be needed per month to run the operation here. The sale is going on in the pourashava area and in six thanas. The total number of card holders in these areas is 4,500 and each card holder is being given five kg rice and five kg wheat.

BNP-AL clash leaves 13 hurt

SIRAJGANJ, Mar 3 : At least 13 people were injured as activists of BNP and Awami League (AL) clashed at Tekani in Kazipur thana on Sunday, reports APB.

Of the injured, three were admitted to Sirajganj General Hospital in a critical condition. The rest were given first aid. Police and locals said the clash ensued when a local AL leader and UP member, Mohar, allegedly demanded wheat on false VGF cards to chairman of Tekani Union Parishad Gazi Anwar Hossain. On being refused, Mohar along with his people swooped on their rivals and damaged a mechanised boat of one Bholu Sheikh, a BNP leader of the area.

Open sale of adulterated diesel

NETRAKONA, Mar 3 : Adulterated diesel and petrol are being sold with impunity in different huts and bazaars, particularly in the district headquarters causing problems for the vehicles, reports UNB.

Some owners of the vehicles told that a section of unscrupulous fuel traders are selling petrol mixed with kerosene for long, but no action is being taken to check the malpractice. A good number of old and new vehicles have already been damaged for using the adulterated fuel, they added. A large number of diesel and petrol shops have been established in different wayside points most of them without any valid licence.

Heroin recovered

KURIGRAM, Mar 3 : BDR personnel have recovered heroin worth about Tk nine lakh from a house at bordering Ramkhana village and arrested one Ayub Ali in this connection, reports APB.

BDR sources said, acting on a tip off, they raided the house of Ayub Ali and recovered the heroin and some other smuggled items. The heroin was of Thai origin and packed in Madras of India, they said. The heroin has been deposited with the Directorate of Narcotics Control and the arrested person handed over to Nageswari police. The sources claimed that Ayub Ali had been involved in smuggling of narcotics, trafficking of women and Hundi business for long.

Regular theft of telephone wire

SHARIATPUR, Mar 3 : Stealing of telephone wire has become a regular phenomenon here in recent days, reports UNB.

T and T Board sources said about 25 kilometre drop wire were stolen in last year due to lack of security measures. At least 30 cables including three cables of Judge Court building and one of ASP's office were also stolen for several times during the period. The sources said an organised group is engaged in theft even after installing the cables afresh. It is also learnt that the subscribers are now buying the cables from the market to keep their sets operative. Official sources said it has now become difficult to give proper service to the subscribers due to the frequent stealing.

Indiscriminate fishing of fries

SATKHIRA, Mar 3 : Current nets are being used indiscriminately for fishing fries from rivers and haors in different areas of Khulna division hampering the prospect of fish production, reports UNB.

According to local people, a huge number of fries of ruhi, katla, mirgel, silver carp, grass carp and different other varieties are being caught everyday by unscrupulous fishermen using current nets showing disrespect to the official ban on fishing small and undersize fish. The fries are being sold in hats and bazaars including important markets in Sadar thana areas of Khulna and Satkhira districts, it said. The current nets are also being sold at different markets, but local Fisheries Department and law enforcing authorities do not take any action against them, they alleged.

Foundation stone laid

COMILLA, Mar 3 : Facilities Department has undertaken a programme of construction of the academy building of Comilla Lalmai Degree College in the current financial year, reports BSS.

The construction cost is Taka 40 lakh. Abu Hena Mustafa Kamal MP laid the foundation stone of the academy building on February 27.

Loan disbursed

JESSORE, Mar 3 : Jessore zone of Bangladesh Rural Development Board has taken up a programme of distribution of credit amounting to Taka 16 crore 50 lakh in the current fiscal year in 11 thanas of Jessore and Narail districts to alleviate poverty of the rural people, reports BSS.

These loans will be disbursed in sewing, pisciculture, poultry and cattle fattening projects. Loans of Taka three crore 21 lakh have already been disbursed and the programme will continue till next June.

Agri-fair begins

JHALAKATHI, Mar 3 : A four-day agriculture fair began in the premises of Kanthalia Thana Parishad here on Sunday, reports APB.

About 300 high-yielding crops and vegetables and various indigenous agriculture tools are on display at the fair to encourage farmers in modern methods of farming. Organised by the Agriculture extension Directorate, the fair is being participated by the local Agriculture Department, Seeds Preservation Department, Live Stock Department, Forestry Department and some NGOs including BRAC, Matrichaya and Grameen Prajukti Biddalaya.

Repairing of pry schools progressing

MANIKGANJ, Mar 3 : The government has sanctioned Tk 77,6000 for repairing of buildings, latrines, tubewells and making furniture to 54 government and non-government primary schools in Ghor thana, reports BSS.

The work, being implemented through schools managing committee, are expected to be completed by this month. The sanction has been given under post flood rehabilitation programme of the government.

BWDB's dam construction scheme

MADARIPUR, Mar 3 : Madaripur O and M Division of Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) has taken up a scheme for the construction of a 471 metre long embankment under Ramshil Kafula Bari Flood Control Project in 1998-99 financial year, reports BSS.

According to official sources, the government has sanctioned Taka 10,97,493 for the implementation of the project. The work will be completed by June this year. The implementation of the project will save over one lakh hectares from water-logging.

Two killed in road accident

JHENIDAH, Mar 3 : Two persons were killed and six other were injured in two separate accidents in sadar and Kaliganj thana here on Saturday last, reports BSS.

According to police, an accident occurred when the driver of a truck lost control over the steering and the truck rammed into a wayside tree and turned turtle near Jhenidah town on Jhenidah-Chuadanga road on Saturday morning, reports BSS.

One persons died on the spot. He is identified as Torab Ali, 30. Six labourers of the truck were rushed to Jhenidah Sadar Hospital with multiple injuries. In another accident, a college student, Manirul Islam, 20, of village Hamdah in sadar thana was crushed under the wheels of a Khulna-bound train near Kaliganj station on Saturday.

Commissioner electrified

SYLHET, Mar 3 : Sajjadur Rahman Saju, a commissioner of Sylhet Pourasabha, was electrocuted on February 25, reports BSS.

The tragic accident occurred when he was taking measurement of his land at Daser Bazar in Khadimpara Union Parishad, with a tape. Suddenly the measurement tape was electrified coming in contact with an electric wire and Sajjadur Rahman was electrocuted. He was rushed to Sylhet Osmani Medical College where the doctors declared him dead. Chairman of Sylhet Pourasabha Badaruddin Kamran expressed heart-felt condolence at the tragic death of Sajjadur Rahman and conveyed sympathy to his family.



A non-violence training programme of orphan girls in progress.

— Star photo

Buddhist mission needs fund to help orphans

By Shuvra Jyoti Chakma

KHAGRACHHARI, Mar 3 : A Buddhist mission, which has been helping the orphans, has sought financial assistance from the government and donor agencies to implement its various projects.

Sources said the Parbattaya Bouddha Mission is currently facing a serious fund shortage that is hampering implementation of its different undertaken projects to assist some 146 orphans including 42 girls in the district.

The mission situated at village Pilotpara under the sadar thana here has now been providing free lodging, food and education to them. It is also running seven development and humanitarian projects with the financial assistance of Caritas and Ananda two non-governmental organisations, Australian High Commission

in Dhaka and CIDA.

The projects are dormitory for orphans, residential school and college, computer training centre, vocational training centre, agricultural training centre and a centre for conducting socio-economic development programmes.

In fact the children here are not receiving free food as they grow crops on about 15 acres of land owned by the mission, said the mission's founder director Sumana Langker Mohathero. The mission is also unable to provide medical assistance to the orphans, he told further. "Social Welfare Department donates only Taka 20,000 every month to the mission which only meets the fooding charge of only 50 out of 146 orphans, he added. However, the Embassy of Australia has recently approved a socio-economic development project for

the organisation, the director told The Daily Star.

Meanwhile, the Bouddha mission has also finalised its future projects, which include mini hospital, Bhikkhu training centre, motor driving training centre, mini dairy farm, pisciculture project and afforestation development project.

The mission which owns five acres of homesteads and 12 acres of paddy land, is governed by a 15-member committee and advised by a 10-member committee headed by convener of the GHT liaison committee Hanga Chakma. The mission has also a pagoda where the children say their prayers.

Smallest Quran

PABNA, Mar 3 : A man claimed to have been possessing the world's most unique and smallest holy Quran here, reports UNB.

Alhaj Muhammad Ismat of the town claimed the Quran is the smallest one than that of one possessed by Mohammad Harfuz of Lebanon which was shown on December 20, 1998.

Ismat, a philanthropist, said he got the copy from a Pakistan relative 35 years back which is 1.6 cm in width and 1.9 cm in length but the Harfuz's one is 1.5 cm in width and 2.5 cm in length.

Witnesses said the holy Quran has 18 lines in each page of 30 paras which is kept in tact in a silver-made amulet and is probably 300-year-old.

Cattle market in Faridpur needs to be shifted

From Abdul Matin Fakir

FARIDPUR, Mar 3 : Tepakhiola cattle market in the town should be transferred to elsewhere from its present place on an emergency basis.

This market is an important one from time immemorial and it attracts a large number of buyers and sellers of the cattle. The cattle market sits on Tuesday from early morning and lasts till late night causing untold sufferings to the traffic and pedestrians. The entire area becomes polluted and bad smell spreads around for days together causing health hazard. The cow-dung remains in the market in the form of heaps and in the rainy season difficulties reach the climax.

Government Yasin College is just opposite to this cattle market which hampers the academic atmosphere of the college and the functioning of other government and non-government offices situated near the market.

Faridpur-Jessore highway has been running through this market. On the hat day it is too difficult for the traffic, people and college attendants to move along the road which is occupied by the buyers and sellers of cattle.

This market is one of the important sources of income for Faridpur Pourasabha. A close source to the pourasava office said that Faridpur Pourasava earns Takk 30 to 35 lakh per year from the lease of the market.

The concerned authority is requested to hand over the market place to Government Yasin College with a view to solving the accommodation problem after shifting the cattle market to elsewhere.



GAIBANDHA: Acute fodder scarcity has been prevailing throughout the district following the worst ever flood of the century. Photo shows a boy struggling hard to collect grass from beside a rural road here for his master's cattle.

— Star photo

RHD Short Notice Inviting Tenders

1. Tender Notice No : 27/SRD/1998-99.
2. Name of work : Earth work in road embankment of flood damaged road at different KM of Pagla-Jagannathpur-Raniganj-Awushkandi road under Sunamganj Road Division during the year 1998-99 in V(five) groups. (Ch to 266 Dev).
3. Estimated cost : As per group list.
4. Earnest money : As per group list.
5. Time allowed : As per group list.
6. Eligibility of contractors : 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/Habiganj/ Planning & Design Division, Comilla/Bridge Design Division-1 (West) Dhaka/Sub-Divisional Engineer (RHD), Road Sub-Division Sunamganj/Chhatak/Mechanical Sunamganj.
8. Name of the officers who received the tenders : Undersigned/Addl Chief Engineer (RHD), Comilla Zone, Comilla/Divisional Commissioner, Sylhet/Superintending Engineer (RHD), Road Circle, Sylhet/Procurement & Monitoring Circle, Dhaka.
9. Tender will be opened by : Undersigned Office.
10. Last date of selling tenders : At 5-00 PM of 09-03-99.
11. Last date of received tenders : At 12-30 PM of 10-03-99.
12. Date & time of opening : At 12-30 PM of 14-03-99.
13. Date & time of lottery : At 1-00 PM of 16-03-99.
14. Group list :

Gr No	Name of work & location	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Time allowed	Eligibility of contractors
I (one)	Earth work in road embankment at 32nd KM of Pagla-Jagannathpur-Raniganj-Awushkandi road.	Tk 20,78,865/-	Tk 41,578/-	50 (fifty) days	"A" to "D" general categories of RHD
II (two)	Do- at 33rd KM -do-	Tk 21,27,600/-	Tk 42,552/-	-do-	-do-
III (three)	Do- at 34th KM -do-	Tk 21,70,608/-	Tk 43,413/-	-do-	-do-
IV (four)	Do- at 35th KM -do-	Tk 20,90,580/-	Tk 41,812/-	-do-	-do-
V (five)	Do- at 36th KM -do-	Tk 19,75,460/-	Tk 39,510/-	-do-	-do-

Ali Ahmed Chowdhury
Executive Engineer (RHD)
Sunamganj Road Division.

GD-161

RHD Short Notice Inviting Tenders

1. Tender Notice No : 25/SRD/1998-99.
2. Name of work : Construction of flexible pavement at different KM of Kalkali-Talikona road under Sunamganj Road Division, during the year 1998-99. In 3 (three) groups (Ch to 266-Dev).
3. Estimated cost : As per group list.
4. Earnest money : As per group list.
5. Time allowed : As per group list.
6. Eligibility of contractors : As per group list.
7. Name of the offices where tender documents will be available : Undersigned/Divisional Commissioner, Sylhet/Executive Engineer (RHD), Road Division, Sylhet/M'Bazar/Habiganj/ Planning & Design Division, Comilla/Bridge Design Division-1 (West), Dhaka/Sub-Divisional Engineer (RHD), Sunamganj/Chhatak/Mechanical, Sunamganj.
8. Name of the officers who received the tenders : Undersigned/Addl Chief Engineer (RHD), Comilla Zone, Comilla/Divisional Commissioner, Sylhet/Superintending Engineer (RHD), Road Circle, Sylhet/Procurement & Monitoring Circle, Dhaka.
9. Tender will be opened by : Undersigned.
10. Last date of selling tenders : At 5-00 PM of 09-03-99.
11. Last date of receiving tenders : At 12-30 PM of 10-03-99.
12. Date & time of opening : At 12-30 PM of 14-03-99.
13. Date & time of lottery (if necessary) : At 1-00 PM of 16-03-99.
14. Group list :

Gr No	Name of work & location	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Time allowed	Eligibility of contractors
I (one)	Construction of flexible pavement at 1st(P) KM of Kalkali-Talikona road.	Tk 41,96,610/-	Tk 83,932/-	40 (forty) days	"A" to "C" general categories of RHD
II (two)	-do- at 2nd KM -do-	Tk 46,48,558/-	Tk 92,971/-	-do-	-do-
III (three)	-do- at 3rd KM -do-	Tk 46,62,903/-	Tk 92,258/-	-do-	-do-

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Sunamganj Road Division.

GD-159

RHD Short Notice Inviting Tenders

1. Tender Notice No : 24/SRD/1998-99.
2. Name of work : Construction of flexible pavement work by widening, HBB & protective work at different KM of Pagla-Jagannathpur-Raniganj-Awushkandi Road, under Sunamganj Road Division, during the year 1998-99. In 5 (five) groups (Ch to 266-Dev).
3. Estimated cost : As per group list.
4. Earnest money : As per group list.
5. Time allowed : As per group list.
6. Eligibility of contractors : As per group list.
7. Name of the offices where tender documents will be available : Undersigned/Divisional Commissioner, Sylhet/Executive Engineer (RHD), Road Division, Sylhet/M'Bazar/Habiganj/ Planning & Design Division, Comilla/Bridge Design Division-1 (West), Dhaka/Sub-Divisional Engineer (RHD), Sunamganj/Chhatak/Mechanical, Sunamganj.
8. Name of the officers who received the tenders : Undersigned/Addl Chief Engineer (RHD), Comilla Zone, Comilla/Divisional Commissioner, Sylhet/Superintending Engineer (RHD), Road Circle, Sylhet/Procurement & Monitoring Circle, Dhaka.
9. Tender will be opened by : Undersigned.
10. Last date of selling tenders : At 5-00 PM of 09-03-99.
11. Last date of receiving tenders : At 12-30 PM of 10-03-99.
12. Date & time of opening : At 12-30 PM of 14-03-99.
13. Date & time of lottery (if necessary) : At 1-00 PM of 16-03-99.
14. Group list :

Gr No	Name of work & location	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Time allowed	Eligibility of contractors
I (one)	Construction of flexible pavement by widening work at 4th & 5th KM of Pagla-Jagannathpur-Raniganj-Awushkandi road.	47,01,661/-	94,033/-	40 (forty) days	"A" to "C" general categories of RHD
II (two)	-do- at 16th & 17th KM of -do-	46,36,432/-	92,729/-	-do-	-do-
III (three)	-do- at 18th & 20th KM of -do-	45,89,250/-	91,785/-	-do-	-do-
IV (four)	-do- protective work at 21st (P) & 22nd (P) KM of -do-	79,75,650/-	1,59,513/-	75 (seventy-five) days	-do- "A" to "B" general categories of RHD
V (five)	Construction of sub-base (sand, soling (Top layer in HBB type) at 7th(P) & 8th(P) KM of -do-	31,17,298/-	62,346/-	40(forty) days	-do- "A" to "C" general categories of RHD

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GD-158

RHD Short Notice Inviting Tenders

1. Tender Notice No : 26/SRD/1998-99.
2. Name of work : Protective work in piers & abutments of bridges at different KM of Pagla-Jagannathpur-Raniganj-Awushkandi Road under Sunamganj Road Division during the year 1998-99. In 2 (two) groups. (Ch to 266-Dev).
3. Estimated cost : As per group list.
4. Earnest money : As per group list.
5. Time allowed : As per group list.
6. Eligibility of contractors : As per group list.
7. Name of the offices where tender documents will be available : Undersigned/Divisional Commissioner, Sylhet/Executive Engineer (RHD), Road Division, Sylhet/M'Bazar/Habiganj/ Planning & Design Division, Comilla/Bridge Design Division-1 (West), Dhaka/Sub-Divisional Engineer (RHD), Sunamganj/Chhatak/Mechanical, Sunamganj.
8. Name of the officers who received the tenders : Undersigned/Addl Chief Engineer (RHD), Comilla Zone, Comilla/Divisional Commissioner, Sylhet/Superintending Engineer (RHD), Road Circle, Sylhet/Procurement & Monitoring Circle, Dhaka.
9. Tender will be opened by : Undersigned.
10. Last date of selling tenders : At 5-00 PM of 09-03-99.
11. Last date of receiving tenders : At 12-30 PM of 10-03-99.
12. Date & time of opening : At 12-30 PM of 14-03-99.
13. Date & time of lottery (If necessary) : At 1-00 PM of 16-03-99.
14. Group list :

Gr No	Name of roadk & location	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Time allowed	Eligibility of contractors
I (one)	Protective work in piers & abutments of bridge at 12th KM 12/1 gap of Pagla-Jagannathpur-Raniganj-Awushkandi Road.	Tk 33,78,643/-	Tk 67,573/-	30 (thirty) days	"A" to "C" general categories of RHD
II (two)	-do- at 18th KM 18/1 gap of -do-	Tk 10,75,066/-	Tk 21,501/-	10 (ten) days	"A" to "D" general categories of RHD

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GD-160