

News snaps

One held for killing wife

JHALAKATHI, Apr 21: One person was arrested yesterday at Amua village under Kathalia thana on charge of killing his wife, reports APB.
Police said the arrested person, Habibur Rahman, had allegedly killed his wife Bilkis Begum, 25, on April 13 by hitting her on the head with a stick following a family feud. Doctors pronounce her dead when she was taken to the local thana health complex, police said. The accused person was sent to jail hafat.

Aus cultivation target

KISHOREGANJ, Apr 21: A total of 32,318 hectares of land have been earmarked for Aus cultivation in 10 thanas with 43,111 metric tons of production target, reports UNB.
Of the total land, high yielding varieties will be cultivated on 13,136 hectares and local varieties on 19,182 hectares. An official of local Agriculture Extension Department said target of 24,696 metric tons has been fixed from HYV and 18,415 mts from local varieties. Meanwhile, Krishi Bank and other commercial banks have started loan distribution programme while AED began supplying various agri-inputs like seeds, pesticides and fertiliser to make the scheme a success.

Road accidents claim 2

JESSORE, Apr 21: Two people including a minor boy, were killed in separate road accidents in the district on Sunday and Monday, reports UNB.
The deceased were identified as Shawkat Hossain, 65, and Sabuj. Police said Shawkat Hossain was killed when a Magura-bound bus knocked the rickshaw carrying him from behind at Simakhali Tetulata on Jessore-Magura road on Sunday. Sabuj, son of Shamsur Rahman, was crushed under the wheels of a truck on Jessore-Benapole road in Jhikorgachha thana on Monday.

Baishakhi Mela concludes

JAMALPUR, Apr 21: A week-long Baishakhi Mela concluded on the premises of the Jamalpur Press Club today, reports APB.
The annual event was arranged by the municipal authorities as part of a programme to welcome the new Bengali year. The mela featured songs welcoming the Bangla New Year, poetry recitation, ball songs, folk songs, circus, puppet dance and other traditional forms of entertainment. The programmes were participated by litterateurs, cultural activists and journalists.

Indian goods seized in Feni

FENI, Apr 21: Smuggled Indian goods valued at about Tk 20 lakh were seized by BDR from border areas in March, reports APB.
The seized goods include 4050 kg of sugar, 1137 bottles of Phenidyl, 168 bottles of alcohol, 3235 bottles of grape water, 3065 bottles of syrup, medicines, bicycles, jeera, shaving cream, powder milk, turmeric wood and saris, BDR sources said.

26 killed in a week

JHENIDAH, Apr 21: A total of 26 people, including 11 young girls, met with unnatural deaths in the district during a week from April 9, police said, reports UNB.
Of them, 15 were reported from Sadar, seven from Shailakupa, two from Harinakunda and one from Kotchandpur thana. The deaths reported from Sadar thana are: Poli, 25, Anwara, 22, Kamal, 22, Lal Mia, 45, Rehana, 20, Shahidul, 18, Shefali, 20, Atiar, 30, Aziz, 14, Sheuli, 20, Javed Ali, 65, Sabuj, 22, Badaruddin, 60, and Shajahan, 32. Of the dead Javed Ali, Sabuj, Badaruddin and Shajahan were killed in road mishaps while Hazrat Ali died from snakebite and Sathi drowned in the water. Others allegedly committed suicide, the sources added.

Tk 44cr for agri rehabilitation

MADARIPUR, Apr 21: State Minister for Land Rashed Mosharrar has said a 44 crore Taka programme has been undertaken for rehabilitation of agricultural lands affected by last year's floods, reports APB.
About 18,000 farmer will benefit from the programme, he said while speaking as chief guest the annual conference of Madaripur district Krishak League at Town Hall yesterday. Presided over by President of the district Krishak League Abul Hosain Talukder, the conference was also addressed by, among others, Shahjahan Khan MP, Alhaj Md Giasuddin, AFN Bahauddin Nasim, Harun-ur Rashid Hawlader, MA Wadood and Baiduzzaman Badsha.

Rajshahi Krishi Unnayan Bank
Zonal Office
Naogaon
Sapahar Branch of Rajshahi Krishi Unnayan Bank under Naogaon district has been shifted.

Previous Location	Present Location
Plot No - 289	Plot No - 134
Khatian No - 143	Khatian No - 07
Union - Sapahar	Union - Sapahar
Thana - Sapahar	Thana - Sapahar

Serving the toiling farmers of the northern region.
DFP-7978-18/4
G-691

Notice Inviting Tenders
No 3(E/M) of 1998-99

1. Tenders in sealed cover are hereby invited in Form No 2911 from special 1st class, class-III E/M approved contractors of this Department for the undermentioned work and will be received by the undersigned, Executive Engineer, PWD Division-III, Rajshahi/ Natore/Naogaon/Sub-Divisional Engineer, PWD Sub-Division, Nawabganj up to 12-00 Noon of 4-5-99 and will be opened on the same day at 12-15 PM.

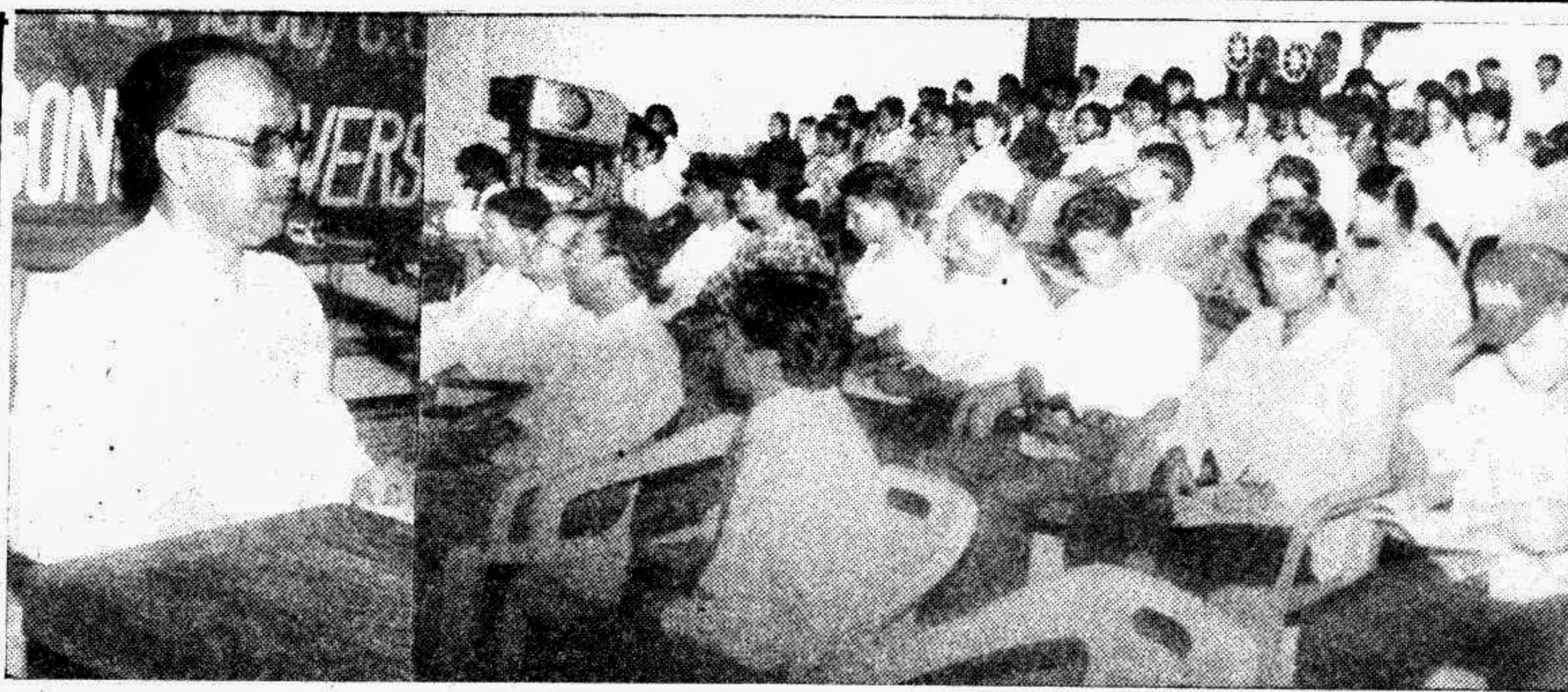
2. Name of work: Providing E.I. and fans including service connection of existing conversion of Shishu Shadan into Shishu Paribar (phase-II) (i) One unit 1000 sft quarter. (ii) Two units staff quarter each 750 sft.

3. Estimated cost: Tk 1,28,675/00.

4. Earnest money: Tk 2575/00 in the form of in Sanchay Patra/BD, CD from any scheduled bank. Fixed deposit holder to submit a certificate from the concerned Executive Engineer received within three months.

5. The tender form together with the schedule of items, specification, terms and conditions, plans etc can be seen and obtained from the office of the undersigned and abovementioned office during office hours on payment of usual charges up to the previous day of receiving tender.

Md Shah Alam
Executive Engineer
PWD Division, Pabna.
DFP-7978-18/4
G-689



CHITTAGONG: Prof Abdul Mannan, VC of Chittagong University, addressing the inaugural session of the International Short Film Festival at the university library auditorium on Monday.

Acute water crisis in Barisal

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Apr 21: Residents in the divisional headquarter have been suffering from acute shortage of drinking water as the water supply marks a sharp fall due to different reasons.
As a result, normal life of the town dwellers has already been paralysed in this summer. For nearly 4 lakh people in the town, the requirement of water is 70 to 80 lakh gallons, but supply now stands at 35 to 40 lakh gallons per day which is half of the requirement, according to pourasava sources.
Besides, frequent power failure also added to the suffering of the people. Out of 23 pumps, 16 are working and 5 are lying inoperative.
There are seven overhead

water tanks having 2.20 lakh gallons of water reserve capacity each, but these tanks are now almost unusable.
To get relief from the water crisis, rich people and the flat owners in the town are now installing deep tubewells. The number of such tubewells in the town is not less than 160. Besides, the authority has also installed more than 50 tubewells in the town area.
After Barisal was declared divisional headquarter some eight years ago, people from different places, particularly nearby villages started migrating to the town. As a result, population in the town has increased remarkably during the last five years. But facilities for

the town dwellers have not been increased proportionately.
Pourasava sources attributed the prevailing water crisis to irregular power supply, illegal connection of motors and gradual decline of underground water level.
Several years ago, the pourasava chairman assured that a 'water treatment plant' will be set up here with the financial assistance of Asian Development Bank (ADB) to ease the water crisis.
But till now, no progress is visible regarding that plant.
Also, the 8-district water supply project has failed to install new overhead water tanks, set up new pipelines, and construct pump houses.

Post of magistrate in Rajshahi PDB lying vacant

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Apr 21: The post of Magistrate in Power Development Board (PDB), Rajshahi, has been lying vacant for more than four months. As a result, PDB cannot conduct drive for disconnecting illegal connections.

PDB sources said they used to conduct drives to disconnect illegal connections five days a week under the leadership of the Magistrate. The Magistrate also sat in his court to dispose of the cases filed in connection with illegal electric connections.

About Tk 5 lakh had been realised as fine everyday during the drive.
Meanwhile, the number of illegal connections has increased in the recent days.

Widespread arsenic contamination in Narail

NARAIL, Apr 21: Arsenic contamination of groundwater has been found to be widespread in the district, much to the concern of officials and the people, reports APB.

Groundwater in a total of 976 square kilometer area in the district is contaminated by arsenic, official sources said.
One out of three deep tubewells in Narail municipal area has been sealed by the municipal authorities as its water contains 110 microgram arsenic per litre. The safe limit is 50 microgram per litre.

MM Mamunur Rashid, Supervisor at the Municipal Water Supply Unit told this correspondent that out of the 700 tubewells in the municipal area, 411 have been examined. Waters of 112 of these are contaminated with arsenic beyond safe limit, he said.

Sources in the district Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) said waters of 627 tubewells out of 1026 examined contain arsenic beyond safe limit. There are about 7,700 tubewells in the district, they said.

The affected tubewells are 116 out of 343 in the Sadar, 284 out of 337 in Lohagara and 226 out of 346 in Kalia thanas.

These tubewells have been declared unsafe. These have either been sealed or marked with red, the sources said.

Meanwhile, people in some rural areas alleged that neither any government agency nor any NGO carried out any awareness campaign among them.

Crimes on rise in Jhalakati

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Apr 21: The number of crimes has been increased alarmingly in different thana areas of Jhalakati district during the last three months.

In the four thanas of the district, a total of 204 crimes have been committed during the period, sources said.
The crimes included two murders, two dacoities, eight thefts, three riots, one incident of abduction, and eleven rape incidents.

At a meeting of the district law and order meeting held recently, it was revealed that

crime rate has increased by 16 per cent in comparison to the crime chart of three months last year.

Of the 204 crimes, 60 incidents were recorded in Jhalakati sadar, 63 in Nalchity, 58 in Rajapur, 23 in Kathalia thana areas.

Nalchity thana topped the list of the criminal activities and incidents. Though more criminal activities took place during the period, those were not recorded with the thanas for various reasons, sources said.

Mymensingh Newsletter

10 houses, one factory gutted in fire

From Our Correspondent
MYMENSINGH, Apr 21: Property worth about Tk 10 lakh was gutted in two fire incidents here recently.

At least 10 dwelling houses were burnt to ashes at village Baje Kharia under Dhubaura thana. The loss caused by the fire was estimated at Tk 5 lakh.
In another incident at Chhoto Bazar area of the town, a fire broke out in a cosmetic factory, destroying property worth about Tk 5 lakh.

The fire brigade personnel rushed to the spot and brought the fire under control after struggling for two hours.

Old woman sustains acid burns

From Our Correspondent
MYMENSINGH, Apr 21: An old woman received serious acid burn injuries at village Pitambar Para under Ishwarganj thana of the district on April 13.

According to police, some unidentified miscreants entered into the house of Maleka Begum, 60, wife of Mia Hossain, and threw acid on her when she was sleeping at dead of night.

With serious burns in her face, she was rushed to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital (MMCH) in a critical condition.
Police said the incident was a sequel to previous enmity over a land dispute.

A case was lodged with Ishwarganj thana in this connection.

40 injured in road accident

From Our Correspondent
MYMENSINGH, Apr 21: At least 40 people were injured, 14 of them seriously, in a road accident on Dhaka-Mymensingh highway at Jhorgachha under Sadar Thana of the district on April 17.

According to police, the accident occurred when a sand-loaded truck bound for Dhaka collided head-on with a bus coming from opposite direction at about 8.30 pm.

Of the injured, 14 were admitted to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital (MMCH).

Police seized both the vehicles. But the drivers managed to escape from the scene. A case was lodged with kotwali thana.

Body recovered from river

From Our Correspondent
MYMENSINGH, Apr 21: Kotwali police recovered a decomposed body of a young man from the river Brahmaputra here on April 18.

The dead was identified as Md. Hanif, 17, son of one Sheikhhabur Ali of village Char Ishwari under sadar thana. He was a labourer.

According to police, the body was found near the Shambhuganj Bridge when a man was catching fish in the river by a small net called 'Jali'.
On receiving information, police rushed to the spot and recovered the body. There were several marks of injury on different parts of the body.
The family sources said he had been missing since April 16.
A case was filed with Kotwali thana in this regard.

Int'l short film festival begins

From CU Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Apr 21: A four-day long international short film festival began at the Chittagong University Library auditorium on Monday.

Chittagong University Vice Chancellor Professor Abdul Mannan inaugurated the show as chief guest at 9 am while Pro-Vice Chancellor Professor Abu Yousuf was present as special guest.

A total of 40 selected short films will be screened in the festival organised by the Bangladesh Short Film Forum and the Chittagong University Film Society. The films are from India, Portugal, Iran, Germany, Brazil, USA, Canada, Japan, Australia, UK, Spain, Sweden, Greece, Peru, and Bangladesh.

On the inaugural day, seven films were shown. The films were Chitra Nadir Pare, Liberation War in Arts, Shahabuddin, Dushhomoy—the case of Shima Chowdhury, Chaka, and Poster. Festival committee chairman Professor Abul Mansur presided over the inaugural function. Shahidullah Lipon, general secretary of the committee, and Dhali Al Mamun, vice president, spoke on the occasion.

Shahjalal varsity agitation programme

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, Apr 21: Administrative activities in the Shahjalal University of Science and Technology resumed yesterday after the All Party Students' Unity withdrew its agitation programme following a fruitful discussion with the authority, official sources said.

University officials sat at a meeting with the leaders of the Unity on Monday night and extended the date for admission into the first year honours classes. They also assured necessary steps regarding the other demands.

Concern over rise of crimes in Jhenidah

JHENIDAH, Apr 21: The District Law and Order Committee at a meeting here has expressed grave concern over the increase in crimes by outlaws and overall deterioration of law and order, reports APB.

The meeting, held at the DC's office, was attended by local political leaders and SP Khoka Baksh Chowdhury, DC Shoebur Rahman was in the Chair.

The political leaders said at the meeting that killings, terrorism, toll collection and smuggling of phenidyl and narcotics by members of outlawed parties have increased, making people's life insecure.
The meeting took a number of decisions to curb crimes in the district, meeting sources said.

2 Natore sugar mills incur Tk 5cr loss

NATORE, Apr 21: The Natore Sugar Mills (NSM) and the North Bengal Sugar Mills (NBSM), highest profit earning sugar mills in the district, incurred a loss of Tk five crore after completion of the current crushing season, reports UNB.

Both the mills could not achieve their target of sugar production in the season due to prolonged flood, pest attack, lower sucrose recovery and reluctance of the growers to supply sugarcane to the mills.
Growers said that they have no interest to supply sugarcane to the mills due to inordinate delay and harassment of the mill authorities in repaying their bills.

Meanwhile, authorities of the two mills could not pay the standing bills of Tk two crore to the growers who supplied the sugarcane to the mills.
The NSM, which began its production on October 28, 1998, produced 15,272 mts of sugar till closing of its crushing season against the target of 15,990 mts, mill source said.

The rate of recovery was 7.8 per cent against the target of recovery of 8.20 per cent. A total of 6,960 mts of sugar have been sold out till the first part of the month while the unsold quantity is valued at Tk 2.28 crore.

Meanwhile, the NBSM started crushing the same time and produced 16,093 mts of sugar against the target of 19,200 mts. The rate of sucrose recovery was 6.75 per cent against the target of 8 per cent.

The total quantum of sugar so far sold out was 7,806 mts leaving a stock of 8,287 mts worth Tk two crore. The mills owe the growers about Tk 70 lakh.

The two mills had made a profit of Tk 100 crore during last 10 years achieving all targets, informed the mills authorities.

The NBSM made a profit of about Tk three crore while NSM Tk 2.20 crore during the last crushing season. On the other hand, this year, the NBSM incurred a loss of Tk three crore while the NSM Tk two crore.

Huge quantity of jute being smuggled out

JHENIDHA, Apr 21: Huge quantity of jute are being smuggled out of the country every day through different border points in south-eastern districts, particularly Jhenidah, Jessore and Chuadanga, reports APB.

Organised gangs of smugglers are purchasing jute at a price between Tk 725 and 750 per quintal in the border areas. The consignments are smuggled out at night for jute mills in Calcutta and other places, sources said.

Local jute traders said jute is being smuggled out because of its high price in India.

Some of the known spots through which jute is smuggled out are Shyamkur, Nasti and Sreenthpur in Maheshpur thana in Jhenidah district, Modna and Karpasdanga in Damurhuda thana and Jiban Nagar in Jiban Nagar thana of Chuadanga district and Pura-pura in Chowgachha thana of Jessore district, the sources said.

Organised gangs who have alleged links with the law enforcers are smuggling truckloads of quality jute every night, the source said.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
PWD Division, Rajbari

Notice Inviting Tender
No Raj 54 of 1998-99

1. Sealed tenders in Bangladesh Form No 2911 are hereby invited from the undermentioned work from approved building contractors/firms of this Department according to their eligibility and financial limit and will be received by the undersigned as well as office of the Divisional Commissioner, Dhaka and all the Executive Engineers under PWD Circle, Jessore on 11-5-99 up to 12.00 Noon and will be opened on the same day at 12.15 PM in presence of the contractors who may like to remain present. Each tender shall be in a sealed cover with the name of work superscribed on it.

2. Name of work: Construction of 12 Nos District Jail — one at Rajbari (Sub-head: Construction of under-trial (male) prisoners, barrack at Rajbari), Barrack No-2.

3. Estimated cost: Tk 40,86,631/=

4. Earnest money: Tk 82,000/=

5. Time allowed for completion of work: 10 (ten) months from the date of issue of work order.

6. Tender papers and other connected papers where available: The tender papers and other documents can be purchased during the office hours from the office of the U/S and all offices of the Executive Engineers under PWD Zone, Khulna office of the Additional Chief Engineer, Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi and office of the Divisional Commissioner, Dhaka on cash payment of usual charges (non-refundable) up to 10-5-99.

Rukun Uddin Ahmed
Executive Engineer
PWD Division, Rajbari
DFP-7977-18/4
G-690

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
LGED, Kushtia

Memo No: XEN/LGED/KUSH/99/1964
Dated: 12-4-99

Tender Notice
No-65/98-99

1. The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a loan from the Asian Development Bank in various currencies towards the cost of Flood Damage Rehabilitation Project (Loan No-1666-BAN/SF) LGED (FY 1998-99). It is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the contract for the following works:

Contract No	Name of work	Completion time	Cost of tender document	Class of contractor
980019/FDR/KUS	Rehabilitation work of 39m foot bridge over Purbapara Kali river at Purda Abdulpur.	45 days	Tk 750.00	'A' & 'B' of RDP-18, RDP-21, other LGED running project & LGED special & class-1 contractor

2. The Executive Engineer, Local Government Engineering Department (LGED), Kushtia, now invites sealed tenders in Bangladesh Form No-2911 and as per additional terms & conditions as appended in the prescribed form for construction and completion of the works mentioned above from prequalified contractors of class A&B of RDP-18, RDP-21, other LGED running projects & LGED special & class-1 contractors.

3. Tenderers may obtain further information on the tender form and inspect the tender documents at the office of the undersigned as well as the office of the Chief Engineer, LGED, Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207 (Rel Officer, Mr M A Salim, Executive Engineer), Divisional Commissioner, Khulna Division, Khulna, the Project Director, Rural Development Project-18, LGED, Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207, office of the DC, Kushtia and SP, Kushtia, the Executive Engineer, LGED, Khulna/Jessore/Magura/Jhenidah/Chuadanga/Meherpur, Thana Engineer, LGED, Kushtia sadar/Kumarkhali/Khoksha/Bheramara/Daulatpur/Mirpur, Kushtia & Assistant Engineer Zila Parishad, Kushtia.

4. A complete set of tender document may be purchased by interested eligible tenderers upon payment of non-refundable fee mentioned from the offices mentioned in para 3 only on or before 03rd May, 1999 during office hours.

5. All tenders must be accompanied by a tender security of 2.5% (two point five per cent) of the total tender price in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order in favour of the Executive Engineer, LGED, Kushtia and must be submitted either via mail (registered with AD) or in person to the offices mentioned in para 3 above on or before 12.30 PM on 04th May, 1999 and will be publicly opened at the same offices at 1:00 PM on the same date.

6. The undersigned shall not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by tenderers in connection with the preparation or delivery of tenders including costs and expenses related to visits to the site.

7. The tenderer shall submit attested copy of enlistment/pre-qualification document valid for the financial year 1998-99/concerned work experience certificate.

8. Proper analysis against each bidding rate must be submitted with tender schedule. If analysis is not submitted or submitting analysis is not realistic than bidder may be informal/non-responsive.

DFP-7989-18/4
G-688
Executive Engineer
LGED, Kushtia.

WELCOME RECEPTION
DR ZAHURUL KARIM
AIRMAN IARC
FELLOW OF BARC

Mymensingh: Scientists' Association of Bangladesh Institute of Nuclear Agriculture (BINA) accorded a reception to Dr Zahurul Karim, Executive Chairman of Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) on his being elected the Fellow of 'Third World Academy of Science' recently.

— Star photo