

HK, four more countries ban dioxine-treated poultry, pork

Two Asian and two European countries, and the Chinese territory of Hong Kong have banned imports of pork and poultry products from Europe over fear that they may be contaminated with cancer-causing dioxin, report agencies.

The countries are Singapore, South Korea, Britain, and Portugal.

At the same time, Japan will inspect all beef and milk products from France and Belgium before allowing them into the country.

Meanwhile, Belgian Prime Minister Jean-Luc Dehaene said that there had been no "generalised contamination of dioxin" in the Belgian and European food chain.

Hong Kong
Hong Kong has banned the import and sale of pork and poultry products from Belgium, France, Germany and the Netherlands due to a dioxin-contamination scare, a health department spokeswoman said Saturday.

Retailers were ordered Friday to withdraw pork and poultry products after the cancer-causing chemical was found in Belgian-made chicken food sold in various countries.

Imports of frozen or chilled pork and poultry are temporarily banned, while biscuits, eggs and other products made from pork or poultry can still be brought into Hong Kong but not sold.

South Korea
South Korea has imposed a ban on importing Belgian poultry, egg products and pork because of possible contamination by cancer-causing dioxin. The government was also

considering a ban on pork from France and the Netherlands, where some pigs may have been exposed to contaminated animal feed, a Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry official said Saturday.

South Korea imported 3,370 tons of Belgian pork this year, 2,430 tons of which have already been distributed. It hasn't imported any Belgian chicken.

Singapore
Singapore has banned all imports of meat and egg products from Europe over fear they may be contaminated with the cancer-causing chemical dioxin, a newspaper reported Saturday.

The move follows reports that dioxin-tainted animal feed from Belgium may have been exported to other countries in Europe, The Straits Times said. A number of countries have scrambled to keep Belgian food off their shelves in the wake of reports that dioxin-laced fat was used to make poultry feed used in Belgium.

The Singapore government on Thursday recalled pork and egg products from Belgium.

Late Friday, it expanded the measure to include all meat and egg products from Europe.

Britain
Britain formally banned imports of Belgian poultry, eggs, beef and pork products from midnight Friday, joining a rising number of nations concerned by a contamination scare.

The public protection order also requires all retailers, from supermarkets to corner shops, to remove any potentially contaminated products

from their shelves. Only suppliers and stores which can prove their produce does not originate from one of the Belgian farms at the centre of the food scare will be allowed to import, officials at the Ministry of Agriculture said.

The move came as the European Union readied to extend its restrictions on Belgian chickens and poultry products, imposed Wednesday, to beef and pork.

Japan steps up inspection
Japan will inspect all beef and milk imports from France and Belgium following concerns that they may be tainted with cancer-causing dioxin, the Health and Welfare Ministry said today.

Only products that cleared safety tests would be allowed into Japan, the ministry said. The ministry told port quarantine officials on Wednesday to confiscate imported chicken and eggs from Belgium, and on Friday stepped up its inspections of food products from France and Belgium in which eggs were used as an ingredient.

The steps follow a report from the European Commission sent to the ministry earlier this week that said there was a strong possibility that French and Belgian animal feed may have been contaminated with dioxin, it said.

Belgium denies
Belgian Prime Minister Jean-Luc Dehaene said overnight after crisis talks with his ministers that there had been no "generalised contamination by dioxin" in the Belgian and European food chain.

products imported from Belgium and 62 tonnes of pork products. No imported of cattle products had been detected, he said.

Capoulas Santos said that the authorities had seized 1,200 breeding birds, 15 breeding pigs and 165 cattle.

An Agriculture Ministry official, who was not identified, told the Portuguese news agency Lusa that perishable animal products would be destroyed.

Camdessus also repeated
IMF pleas for new clauses in new bond contracts to prevent individual bondholders from blocking much-needed rescheduling deals. "Rescheduling could then take place with the consent of a majority of creditors, rather than requiring unanimous assent as at present," he said.

The IMF put together rescue packages worth tens of billions of dollars in Asia, Russia and Latin America.

It has long been trying to find ways to ensure that the private sector shares some of the costs of these rescue deals and it wants to ensure debtor nations like Ukraine, Pakistan

IMF seeks pvt sector role when crisis looms

WASHINGTON, June 5: The head of the International Monetary Fund yesterday urged debtors and creditors to work together when crisis looms, but said debtors should not use IMF cash to bail out the private sector, says Reuters.

IMF Managing Director Michel Camdessus, speaking to the Council on Foreign Relations in New York, said loan contracts had to be honoured, although troubled countries might at times find it hard to pay their debts.

"In such cases it will be important to ensure that public money is not used to shield private creditors from adverse outcomes," he said, according to a text released in Washington. "The debtor country must be able to meet with its private creditors to discuss continued public sector involvement."

Camdessus said the IMF still needed money to pay for a debt relief programme and for concessional loans to poor countries. He hoped IMF members would soon complete a deal to sell some gold from IMF reserves.

Most major IMF member countries favour sales of up to 10 million ounces from the IMF's 103 million ounce gold stockpile. The money would be put in a trust fund and interest earned on this cash would be used to pay for the two programmes.

or Romania do not use IMF money to repay private sector debts.

Camdessus said borrowers and official lenders, including the IMF, had already introduced changes designed to ease the chance of new financial crises. Countries and lenders were drawing up new standards and making more information available, and it was time for the private sector to play a role.

"Just as the public sector is being asked to adapt its crisis, so too the private sector... will need to change," he said. "This will mean an increase in its own transparency and governance... developing more effective evaluation and management of risk."

The world financial crisis, which started in Thailand almost two years ago, stretched IMF resources to the limit, although funding problems eased after member countries approved a cash injection late in 1998.

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Syed Alamgir Farrouk Chowdhury (C), Secretary of Commerce, speaks as chief guest at a professional training course on company management held in the city on Friday. — ICSMB photo

Bangladesh Power Development Board

Tender Notice

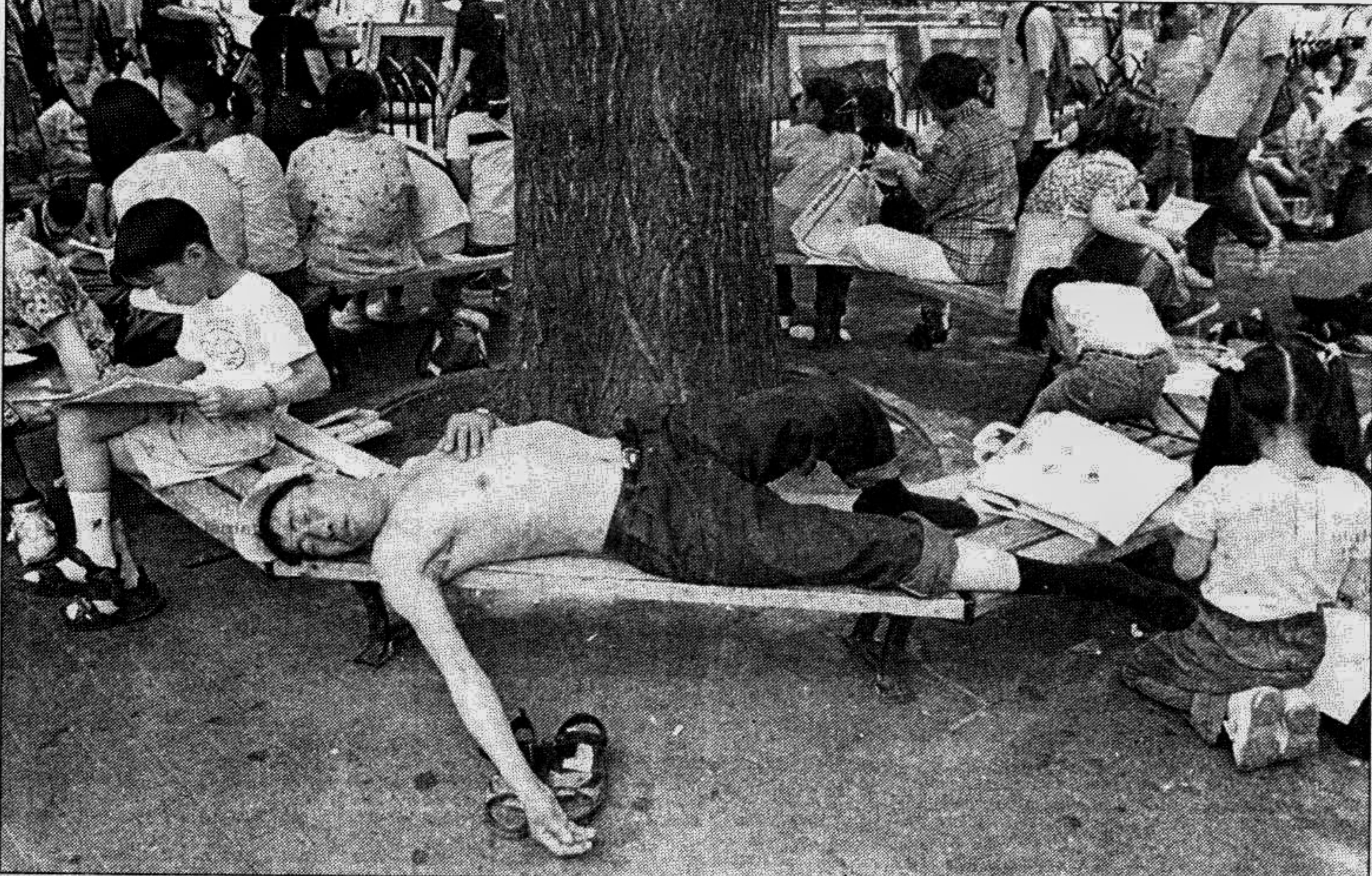
দেশপ্রেম উদ্ভব হউন
বিদ্যুতের অবৈধ সংযোগ বন্ধ করুন

1. Name of office	Office of the Executive Engineer, GMD, PDB, Tepra, Aricha, Manikganj.
2. Name of work	Supply of useable Sylhet sand (FM 2.50) in filter tank used in water supply system of Tepra Complex under GMD, Aricha to the divisional store at Tepra.
3. Estimated rate	Tk 45,593/50.
4. Amount of earnest money	At the rate of 5% of the quoted rate in the form of Pay-Order/Bank Draft from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh in favour of Deputy-Director, RAO (P&CO), PDB, Dhaka.
5. Places of availability of tender documents	a) Chief Engineer, Transmission, PDB, Dhaka. b) Superintending Engineer, GOC Circle, PDB, Dhaka. c) Sonali Bank, Shibalaya Branch, Aricha, Manikganj.
6. Cost of tender document	Will have to be purchased by a non-refundable Bank Draft/Pay Order of Taka 75 (seventy-five) in the name of Deputy Director, RAO (P&CO), PDB, Dhaka.
7. Eligibility of contractors	Class/Notified supplier establishment enlisted with Power Development Board.
8. Places where tenders will have to be submitted	a) Chief Engineer, Transmission, PDB, Dhaka. b) Superintending Engineer, GOC Circle, PDB, Dhaka. c) Office of the undersigned.
9. Last date of selling tender	13-6-99, 12:00 Noon.
10. Last date of receiving tender	14-6-99, 12:00 Noon.
11. Last date of opening tender	14-6-99, 12:30 PM.
12. Date of completion of work	Will have to be completed within 7 (seven) days from the date of issue of work order.
13. Terms and conditions	Tender documents can be purchased with the prior permission from the undersigned or from the heads of the offices mentioned in a & b of 5 before purchasing tender documents. Rate analysis will have to be submitted as per quoted schedule if it is more than 10% of the allocated money.

Tenderers or their nominated representatives may remain present at the time of opening tender. The undersigned reserves the power to reject any tender or all tenders without assigning any reason. The tender committee is not obliged to accept the lowest rate.

Power/Public-1677(3)/98-99
DFP-12199-31/5
G-1046

Executive Engineer
GMD, PDB, Tepra
Aricha, Manikganj



A South Korean jobless person takes a nap on a bench in a park in Seoul on Saturday as school children sketch with their parents on the weekend. According to the government's statistics, there have been more than 1.55 million unemployed South Koreans for the past one-and-a-half-year, since the economic crisis hit the country. — AFP photo

Canadian banks turn to cost-cutting

TORONTO, June 5: With foreign banks starting to bang at the door and their merger plans rejected, Canada's big banks are turning to cost-cutting to squeeze out profit gains, says Reuters.

The round of frugality also comes as slumping equity markets reduce the earnings power of their brokerage divisions. For the second-quarter reporting period that ended on Thursday, Canada's Big Six banks reported combined earnings of C\$1.92 billion, compared with C\$2.02 billion for the same period last year.

In the past two weeks, three of them have introduced various cost-cutting measures. The deepest cuts are being made at Canada's biggest bank. After reporting a one-third drop in second-quarter earnings, Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce CM.TO on Thursday introduced a plan to identify high return businesses such as wealth management and electronic commerce and concentrate on them.

The plan contained a C\$500 million cost reduction programme. CIBC reported net income of C\$300 million or 66 Canadian cents a share, for the second quarter, compared with C\$434 million, or 97 Canadian cents a share, for the same period last year.

"Our goal going forward is to be the No 1 Canadian bank in total shareholder returns. I think you all agree we have a long way to go," the bank's chairman, John Hunkin, said during an analysts' call on his first official day in the top job. Last week, Royal Bank of Canada RY.TO, the country's

second largest bank by assets, said it plans to sell most of its major real estate holdings, valued at more than C\$850 million, to focus on its core businesses.

"We feel we can take advantage of other opportunities with that money and get better returns for our shareholders and move consistent with our strategy which is to be in high-growth, higher-return businesses," David Moorcroft, vice-president of public affairs at Royal Bank, told Reuters.

ROK aims to cut jobless rate to 6pc by yr end

SEOUL, June 5: South Korea on Saturday advanced its targets in the fight against unemployment, promising to lower its jobless rate to six per cent by the end of the year instead of next year, says AFP.

The revised target, taken at a meeting of economic ministers today, reflected an upbeat mood over the country's economic prospects.

Gross domestic product for the first six months this year is now expected to surpass five per cent, after an earlier government forecast for the first half was two per cent.

Under the new employment target, the number of jobless is expected to be reduced from 1.55 million as at the end of April to 1.3 million by the end of December as the improving economy creates jobs.

Previously, the government had said the number of jobless would not be down to 1.3 million until sometime in 2000. In percentage terms the jobless rate will be lowered from 6.9 per cent to six per cent.

In order to meet the new target, the government will inject public funds to help create small and mid-sized firms and venture capital firms.

South Korea's jobless rate has declined gradually since February when it hit a record 8.7 per cent.

The National Statistical Office said 1.55 million people, or 7.2 per cent of the workforce, were out of work in April, down from 1.7 million, or 8.1 per cent, in March. President Kim Dae-Jung said the government would increase the public funds allocation to fight unemployment in 1999 to 10 trillion won (8.4 billion dollars) from 7.7 trillion set earlier.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer (R&H)
Road Division, Moulvibazar

Tender Invitation Notice

1. Tender Notice	21 (twenty-one)/EE(R&H), Road Division, Moulvibazar, 1998-99.
2. Name of work	Construction of Bailey bridge including diversion road beside the dilapidated 13/4 No iron bridge on the 13th KM of Brahmanbazar-Shamshernagar-Srimongal Road under Moulvibazar Road Division during 1998-99 fiscal year. 266 development head.
3. Head of expenditure	
4. Estimated cost	Tk 5,49,776/-
5. Earnest money	Tk 10,996/-
6. Authority to approve estimate	Superintending Engineer (R&H), Sylhet Road Circle, Sylhet.
7. Time for completion of work	45 (forty-five) days.
8. Offices where tender will be sold	1) Executive Engineer (R&H), Road Division, Moulvibazar/ Habiganj/ Sylhet/ Sunamganj/Planning Division-1 (P&D), Sarak Bhaban, Dhaka/Planning & Design Division, Comilla. 2) Sub-Divisional Engineer (R&H), Road Sub-Division, M'bazar/Kulaura/Srimon-gal, Mechanical Sub-Division, M'bazar.
9. Offices where tender will be received	1) Additional Chief Engineer (R&H), Comilla Region, Comilla. 2) Superintending Engineer (R&H), Sylhet Road Circle, Sylhet. 3) Superintending Engineer (R&H), Procurement & Monitoring Circle, Dhaka. 4) Executive Engineer (R&H), Road Division, Moulvibazar.
10. Last date of selling tender	14-6-99, 31-2-1406 Bang, till office hours.
11. Date & time of receiving tender	15-6-99 Eng./1-3-1406 Bang, till 12-30 PM.
12. Specific date and time of opening tender	17-6-99/3-3-1406 Bang at 12-45 PM.
13. Date and time of holding lottery	21-6-99/7-3-1406 Bang, at 12-45 PM. in the office chamber of the undersigned.
14. Eligibility of contractors	'A' to 'E' general category of contractors of R&H Department.

Abul Bashir Mohiuddin Ahmed
Executive Engineer (R&H)
Road Division, Moulvibazar.

DFP-12195-31/5
G-1045

Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh
Headquarters, Kurmitola, Dhaka
No. CAAB/PF-153(Part) Dated: 27-05-1999

First Show Cause Notice

Sub : Regarding punitive action under Government Employees (Special Provision) Ordinance of 1979 against Mr. Md. Nizamuddin, Sub-Assistant Engineer (E/M) (S/o. Md Ali Hyder) for the allegation of his long absence without permission at place of work.

Whereas Mr. Md. Nizamuddin, Sub-Assistant Engineer (E/M), 40/21, Dhaka Nagar Lane, P.O. Faridabad, P.S. Sutrapur, Dist. Dhaka, while working at this Authority's E/M Division-1, went on external Bangladesh leave for 15 (fifteen) days from 03-08-98 to 17-08-98. But as he did not join place of work even after expiry of leave, he was sent letter Nos. CAAB/E/M-1/Admin-4/24/89/6071 & CAAB/E/M-1/Admin-4/24/89/6184 dated 26-11-98 & 23-12-98, respectively by registered A/D post to his permanent & temporary addresses, from E/M Division-1 instructing him to join duty. But the Postal Department sent back the letters commenting there upon that the officer concerned was not available at the said permanent & temporary addresses. Again letter No. CAAB/SE(E/M)/PF-208/2157 dated 03-02-1999 from E/M Circle instructing him to join duty was sent by registered A/D post to his permanent & temporary addresses, but the Postal Department sent back this letter too, with the similar comment to the E/M Circle; And

Whereas his such long continuous unauthorised absence being detrimental to office discipline is equivalent to offence described under Rule 3(B) of Govt. Employees (Special Provision) Ordinance of 1979 which is a punishable offence under Rule 4(A) of the same Ordinance.

Now, therefore, accusing him for his such offence, under Rule 3(B) of Government Employees (Special Provision) Ordinance of 1979, this notice is issued allowing him 05 (five) days' time in accordance with Rule 5(1) of the said Ordinance to explain why he should not be awarded the punishment "dismissal from service" described under Rule 4(A) of the same Ordinance. He may seek personal hearing to support himself. If no written reply is received from him in due course then next steps as per rules will be taken against him ex-parte.

Air Commodore T A Ziarat Ali, PSC
Chairman
Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh

DFP-12308-31/5
G-1048

BCIC Tender Notice

Separate tenders in sealed conditions in specific tender schedule are invited from renowned contractors for loading of possible stock of approximate 99000.00 M Tons of Urea/DSP fertiliser filled in sacks (each sack weighing 50 kg) of the BADC godowns mentioned below in different districts under the control of Zia Fertiliser Company Limited during 1999-2000 fiscal year in truck/wagon/barge/boat or similar transport at the time of sale.

Serial No	Location of BADC godowns	Approximate quantity of work
01.	Rajshahi	30000.00 M Ton.
02.	Joypurhat	20000.00 " "
03.	Charkai (Dinajpur)	25000.00 " "
04.	Natore	20000.00 " "
05.	Netrokona	2000.00 " "
06.	Bhairab	2000.00 " "

Tenders will have to be deposited by 11-00 AM on 20-6-99 in the tender box kept at the office of the General Manager (Commercial), Zia Fertiliser Co Ltd, Ashuganj, B'baria and the Deputy Commissioner, Rajshahi. Tenders will be opened after the expiry of time limit for receiving tender the same day at 11-15 AM before the tenderers present. Each set of tender document containing detailed rules and regulations along with schedule of work will be available on payment of Taka 400/- (four hundred) (non-refundable) from the Accounts Division, office of the Controller of Accounts, Zia Fertiliser Company Ltd, BCIC, 30-31, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka and office of Officer-in-charge of Buffer godown at Shiroli Colony in Rajshahi during office hours. Sale of tender schedule will remain closed on the day of opening tender. The factory authority reserves all powers to reject or accept any or all tenders without assigning any reason.

BCIC-495-30/5/99
DFP-12314-31/5
G-1047

General Manager (Commercial)

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Project Director
Second Rural Roads & Markets Improvement and Maintenance Project
LGED Bhaban, Agargaon
Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207

Memo No. LGED/PP/RRMIMP-2/E/13/99/3238 dated: 30/5/99

National Tender Notice

No. N-25

1. The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has obtained a credit from the International Development Association (IDA) towards the cost of the Second Rural Roads and Markets Improvement and Maintenance Project (RRMIMP-2). It is intended that part of the proceeds of this credit will be applied to eligible payments under contracts for the supply of equipment for which this invitation of bid is issued.

2. The Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply of equipment as stated below.

Contract No.	Brief Description	Quantity (No.)	Delivery Schedule
NCB-21	Theodolite	14 (fourteen)	Within 4 weeks from award of contract

3. Interested eligible bidders who wish to obtain further information and inspect the bidding documents may contact the Office of the Project Director, RRMIMP-2, Local Government Engineering Department, LGED Bhaban, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka, Bangladesh, Facsimile No. 880-2-9126165, Tel. No 880-2-9122435, 880-2-9122432.

4. A complete set of bidding documents for individual package can be purchased by the interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the undersigned and upon payment of non-refundable fee of Tk 1000/- up to 19/07/99 in the office hours from the office of the undersigned.

5. The provisions in the instructions to bidders and in the general conditions of contract are the provisions laid down in the World Bank's "Standard Bidding Documents: Procurement of Goods."

6. Bids must be delivered to the office of the undersigned on or before 12:00 hours on 21/07/99 and must be accompanied by a bid security of at least 2 (two) per cent of the bid amount.

7. Bids will be opened in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend at 12:15 hours on 21/07/99 at the office of the undersigned.

8. The authority reserves the right to accept any bid or to reject any or all bids.

DFP-12244-31/5
G-1043

Md. Abdul Karim
Project Director