

National

Comilla Palli Bidyut Samity sues PDB

COMILLA, Mar 5: Comilla Palli Bidyut Samity (PBS-2) on Wednesday filed a case against the Power Development Board (PDB) seeking injunction to its entry into EPZ area and stop all its activities, reports UNB.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is scheduled to lay the foundation stone of the Export Processing Zone formally on March 12.

Following the case of PBS, the court has issued notice to PDB to show cause by seven days.

PSB-2 implemented the power supply work to the EPZ following the decision of a meeting held in presence of EPZ authority, PDB, Petrobangla and Bakhrabad Gas representatives.

Violating the decision, Executive Engineer of PDB (Sales & Distribution) in a letter on February 7 asked PBS-2 not to set up power lines in Airport, EPZ and adjoining areas.

But PBS ignored it and set up the power line and started power supply to the EPZ on February 29.

Best College Teacher

BRAHMANBARIA, Mar 5: Mohammad Ishaque, Vice Principal, Brahmanbaria Government College is selected the best college teacher at the National Education Week, organised by the Education Ministry, reports BSS.

He received a gold medal and a certificate of the 'National Education Week' 200 from Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the ceremony held at Osmani Smriti Auditorium in Dhaka City on February 17. He was also selected the best teacher in Brahmanbaria upazilla and district level.

Professor Mohammad Ishaque has written some books on practical biology and many essays on college education, Zoology and other subjects, published in different newspapers. He was the president of Brahmanbaria Press Club for about four years and was the correspondent of now defunct the 'Bangladesh Times' for a long time. He is also connected with different social and cultural activities of different organisations including the Staff Council and the Bangladesh College Teachers' Association.

Non-iodised salt being sold in Gopalganj

GOPALGANJ, Mar 5: Unabated sales of non-iodised salt in different bazaars in the district have created health hazards of the people particularly the poorer section, reports UNB.

A large number of people in the district are suffering from different iodine deficiency related diseases like goiter, deaf, dumb, squint, and mental retardation.

Unscrupulous traders, defying government ban, are selling non-iodised salt in the market. Low price of such salt attracted the poorer section of the people who are ignorant as well about the problem.

Non-iodised salt in good-looking packets with the label of iodised salt is also sold in the market cheating the consumers on the very nose of law enforcers.

A recent survey revealed that about 85 per cent of rural people in the district are using non-iodised salt creating serious health hazards for themselves and for the posterity.

Besides low quality Indian salt is also sold in the market without the knowledge of the consumers.



Unabated river erosion in, Chandpur town.

— Star photo

Causes behind Kalaroa tragedy

From Abu Ahmed

SATKHIRA, Mar 5: What were the causes of Kalaroa tragedy? Who are responsible for the incident occurred at Kalaroa SSC sub-centre on Thursday?

At the time of enquiry on the spot, this correspondent and other reporters from Satkhira collected different information.

Mentionable that six persons including one school mistress, and two examinees were killed in the stampede incident at Kalaroa Government College sub-centre under Kalaroa High School main centre during SSC examinations on the first day on March 2. The district administration, however, confirmed the death of four persons, including one examinee, one mistress and two guardians.

Regarding causes behind the tragedy, this correspondent was informed that during examination at this sub-centre, Section 144 was not imposed properly. No publicity in this regard was made earlier. Red flags were not hoisted within 200 yards from the sub-centre. This was violation of the government's instruction.

Moreover, as there is no boundary wall round this college sub-centre, examinees,

Guardians, teachers and outsiders entered the centre without any obstacle. All entered like a mob at about 9:20 AM.

The collapsible gate was opened at proper time, but the other doors at the first and second floors, where the examinations were scheduled to be held, were closed. Besides, the seat plan sheet for the examinees were written in indistinct letters. For this reason it was too illegible.

Every year a group of musclemen belonging to student organisation of ruling party, take control of the entrance and exit passage. For creating opportunity for adopting unfair means inside the examination hall. They also create chaos and takes chances to tease young girls and other ladies during gatherings. In 1999 in this sub-centre these musclemen created such a situation and snatched away the girls' gold necklace and wrist watches. The musclemen enjoyed a picnic last year selling the articles. This year also they took control of the passage of first and second floors. When there was a gathering these musclemen teased girl students, mistresses and tore down their clothes.

Eyewitnesses told The Daily Star that while such activities were going on, police personnel, however, managed to go upstairs and resorted to lathicharge. At this moment somebody closed the collapsible gate of the ground floor, which caused the tragedy. Different persons said the collapsible gate was closed by order of the Thana Nirbahi Officer (TNO) of Kalaroa. When contacted the TNO of Kalaroa Md Raisuddin and Officer-in-Charge (OC) Md Fazlul Haque said that the TNO was distributing question papers staying at the main centre at Kalaroa High School, while the incident was being occurred at college sub-centre. The TNO said he reached at the sub-centre at about 9:35 am and found the injured persons. He also added that the magistrate also reached the centre at about the same time. The TNO and OC said the Deputy Secretary, Md Abdul Wahab and the assistant hall super for the sub-centre can, in no way, avoid their responsibility.

People, however, alleged that the local administration find the student organisation backed by the ruling party are responsible for the tragedy.



Recognition

A grand recognition was accorded to Education Minister A S H K Sadek at Jessore Town Hall on February 29 jointly by Jessore International Mother Language Day Observance Committee and local administration. The minister played a vital role in global recognition of Ekushey. Photo shows Deputy Commissioner of Jessore Aminur Rosul presenting him a crest on the occasion.

— Star photo

SSC examinees adopting unfair means in Sirajganj

From Akhteruzzaman Bablu

SIRAJGANJ, Mar 5: A huge number of SSC examinees this year have been adopting unfair means in examination centres in the district.

404 students were expelled for adopting unfair means in English second paper examination in the district on Saturday, the second day of the examinations.

On the first day 353 students were expelled from 22 centres of the district. However, no student was expelled from centres in Kaziur thana despite alarming increase in copying.

Local people said the tendency of adopting unfair means has surpassed the previous records. In rural centres most examinees are resorting to copying, they added.

A total of 23,764 examinees from the district were appearing at the examinations that began on Thursday.

Centres in the rural areas are traditionally known as safe haven for lawbreakers in examination halls. Every year hun-

dreds from urban areas get enrolled with institutions in rural areas to become eligible to appear at examinations from centres in rural areas.

Some guardians and students allege authorities do not pay much attention to rural centres, but only maintain strict surveillance in urban centres.

However, urban centres are not free from the vice. Students in urban centres too resort to adopting unfair means in examination centres.

Satharia centre was cancelled following clashes in the centre and widespread allegations of adopting unfair means by examinees last year. But the decision was changed later after an influential minister intervened. Examinations are being held at the centre this year.

Local people allege vigilance teams are not performing duties properly. They have urged the authorities concerned to take stern measures to stop the malpractice.



A Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examination centre in Sirajganj. Reports of widespread adoption of unfair means are pouring in from various parts of this district.

— Star photo

Action against terrorists under PSA: Tofail

BHOLA, Mar 5: Industries Minister Tofail Ahmed has said action will be taken under Public Safety Act (PSA) against those who will unleash terrorist acts in the name of hartal, reports UNB.

The law has been enacted to remove terrorism, told collection and subversive acts. Those who do politics of killings are afraid of the law," he told a civic gathering in the district on Saturday.

Addressing the function at Shahbazpur Government College in Lalmonir thana, he said BNP was born through killings, but the present government didn't take any revenge against anyone.

By opposing the law, the BNP leader (Begum Zia) created fear among the terrorists and thus the country in fact was benefited from her propaganda," the minister said.

In this respect, he mentioned that the leaders and workers of her (Begum Zia's) party can't blast bombs and damage cars during the hartal following the Public Safety Act.

He also wondered as to how Ershad who had killed politicians, workers, professionals, students and innocent people and unleashed repression is now talking about human rights.

Elaborating various successes of the government in domestic and international arenas, he said the rules in the past made their own fortune.

But the present government and Awami League have dedicated them to serving the people's he said expressing hope to make Bangladesh a mid-income country by the year 2020.

Later the minister addressed a function of Imam Samity at Char Fashon. He also inaugurated Ilisha-Bhola Syndicate road and laid foundation of a fire service station at Borhanuddin.

In the afternoon, Tofail attended a workers' rally at Bangla School ground in Bhola town. District Sramik League organised the rally. He was accorded a reception by the Bhola municipality on Friday night.

Sharp fall in water level affects navigation

BARISAL, Mar 5: Sharp fall in water level of the major rivers has affected navigation in various routes during this dry season, reports BSS.

According to sources, due to sharp fall in the water level journey by boat or launch has become risky.

The river routes between

Barisal and Dhaka, Barisal and Khulna, and Barisal and Chittagong have become highly risky for the vessels carrying both passengers and goods.

At least 39 river routes have been affected due to the fall of water level in the rivers Meghna, Tetulia, Sandhya, Gakhana, Arikhanna and Sugandha.

Over 30 vessels with passengers ran around in different routes recently, causing immense suffering to the passengers.

The navigability of the rivers Meghna, Kirtankhola, Paura, Lata, Maskata, Kalabadar, Lohalia, Tetulia, Bishkhali, Sandhya, Sugandha, Tushkhali, Lebukhali and Kacha has been affected alarmingly due to sharp fall in the water level. Shoals have emerged in the riverbeds of most of these rivers.

The minimum depth of water required for safe movement of vessels is eight feet but the depth falls below this required level.

Timber price up in Netrakona

NETRAKONA, Mar 5: With the rise of earning and changes in taste of middle-class people, the demand for wooden furniture has soared pushing up the prices of quality timbers, reports UNB.

A large number of furniture manufacturing factories have sprung up in rural and urban areas of the district to cater to the people's demand.

According to an estimate, there are 150 such firms in pourasava (municipality) area in addition to an unspecified number of furniture shops in 10 thana headquarters, four pourasavas and important bazar of the district.

Bedsteads, wardrobes, dressing tables, dining tables, chairs, showcases and sofa sets are among the furniture produced in the factories.

With the increase of furniture making shops, the number of sawmills has also increased in the district. At present, there are 10 sawmills in the town.

News snaps

Foundation laid

BARISAL, Mar 5: Dharendra Debnath Shambhu, Deputy Minister for Food has laid the foundation of a three-story hostel at the Government Women College premises in Barguna district, reports BSS.

The Facilities Department has been constructing the hostel named after the Prime Minister at a cost of Taka 64 lakh during this fiscal year, official source said. Presided over by principal of the college Razia Begum, the foundation laying ceremony was addressed, among others, by Deputy Commissioner of Barguna Fakrul Islam, Police Supper Bakhtiar Alam, Principal of Barguna Government College A Hannan Hasemi, PP Advocate Abul Kamal Azad, Paura Chairman Shahjahan Mia, Ex-Chairman Delwar Hossain and Press Club Secretary Golam Mostafa Kader.

New bldg of college

PATUAKHALI, Mar 5: A new academic building of Abdul Karim Midha College, constructed at a cost of Tk 25 lakh, was inaugurated here on Friday, reports UNB.

Chief Whip of Jatiya Sangsad Abul Hasanat Abdullah opened the academic building. Speaking on the occasion, he said the present government in order to improve the standard of education attaches top priority to the sector. The Chief Whip said the country's literacy rate has risen to 60 per cent from 34 in 1991 and hoped that it would rise more. Abdullah announced that he would donate Tk one lakh from his own fund for the poor but meritorious students of the college.

Loan for farming

RANGAMATI, Mar 5: Bangladesh Rural Development Board (BRDB) will disburse loans totaling Tk 69 lakh among members of its different cooperatives in sadar thana this fiscal, reports UNB.

Of the total amount, Tk 12 lakh will be distributed among members of Farmers' Cooperatives, Tk three lakh among those of Destitute Cooperatives, Tk 44 lakh among the members of Women Cooperatives and Tk seven lakh among those of Integrated Cooperatives, officials said.

3.28 lakh saplings planted

RANGAMATI, Mar 5: As part of the government's Social Afforestation Programme, Forest Department planted some 3.28 lakh saplings at Marong Range in the last fiscal, reports UNB.

According to officials, saplings of various trees, including Dhakijam, Chapalish and Garjan, were planted on 271 acres of land.

Dam work begins

SYLHET, Mar 5: Construction works on 40-km flood control embankment along the Dhalai river in Kamolganj thana of Moulvibazar district have begun, reports UNB.

Water Development Board is implementing the project spending 4,957 mts of wheat, officials said. They said some 17,500 hectares of croplands in eight unions of Kamolganj, Rajnagar and Kulaura thanas would be protected from recurring floods upon completion of the project. The government endorsed the project in 1997-98 fiscal under its annual development programme involving Tk 12 crore, the officials added.



গাজী লালান, গাজীর পরিচয় করুন এবং পরিবেশ রক্ষা - প্রধানমন্ত্রী

বাংলাদেশ পেট্রোলিয়াম এক্সপ্লোরেশন কোম্পানী লিমিটেড

Bangladesh Petroleum Exploration Company Limited

(A Subsidiary Company of Petrobangla)

Tender No. 123.53.136

Dated: 23.2.2000

Tender Notice

Sealed quotations are hereby invited from the bonafide suppliers/manufacturers/distributors on prescribed schedule for supply of SL. No. (1) Tyre Tube & Battery (2) Office Stationery (3) Printing Materials (4) Electrical Materials & (5) Hardware Materials.

Tender schedule containing terms and conditions will be available at our Accounts & Finance Division, Ibrahim Mansion (3rd floor), 11, Purana Paltan, Dhaka during office hours from 13.3.2000 at a cost of Tk 500.00 for SL No. 1-4 and Tk 250.00 for SL No. 5 per schedule (non-refundable).

No tender schedule will be sold on the opening date of the tender. Tender in separate sealed covered superscribing the case number and description of goods may be dropped in the tender box kept at Materials Control Division, HBFC Building (9th floor), 22, Purana Paltan, Dhaka at 12:00 Noon on 28.3.2000 for SL No. 1, 29.3.2000 for SL No. 2 & 3 and 30.3.2000 for SL No. 4 & 5 which will be opened on the same day at 12:10 PM in presence of the tenderers (if any).

Management reserves the right to accept/reject any or all the tenders and increase/decrease the quantity of item without assigning any reason whatsoever.

DFP-4544-28/2

G-387

General Manager (MCD)

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Department of Agricultural Extension

Project Implementation Wing

Khamarbari, Farmgate, Dhaka

No DAE/PIW/Engg/BIRTAN-1/97/109

Dated: 22/2/2000

Notice Inviting Tender

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from the Class-I & Class-II enlisted Contractors of PIW for repair and renovation of office for BIRTAN in Shech Bhaban at Manik Miah Avenue, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka under the project "Support for BIRTAN". Estimated cost of the work is Tk 14.93 lac only.

For purchase of tenders, the owner of the firms have to submit application through the original letter pad of the respective firm.

Tenderers must submit Earnest Money with their tender at the rate of 2.50% of total quoted amount in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order from any Scheduled Bank of Bangladesh in favour of the Executive Engineer, PIW, Department of Agricultural Extension. Tender without Earnest Money will be treated as cancelled.

Tender documents will be available for purchase at a non-refundable price of Tk 1000/- (taka one thousand) only per set during Government Office hours on all working days up to 12-3-2000 in PIW Office at Khamarbari (Middle Building, 5th floor), Dhaka and in the Office of the Divisional Commissioner, Dhaka.

Tender will be received up to 2:00 PM on 13-3-2000 and be opened thereafter in presence of the tenderers who wish to be present at PIW Office, Khamarbari (Middle Building 5th floor), Dhaka and in the Office of the Divisional Commissioner, Dhaka.

Project Implementation Wing reserves the right to reject any tender including the lowest tender or accept any tender in part or full and to waive any irregularity of a tender if it is found in the interest of the Project to do so without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Md Jamaluddin

Executive Engineer

Project Implementation Wing

DFP-4462-27/2

G-389

Phone: 9117795

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Department of Supply and Inspection

Invitation of Tender

The following tenders are invited by the Department of Supply and Inspection. All the registered firms of this Department in the relevant group and other well established firm subject to submission of application well in advance and if considered fit by the authority.

Sl. No.	Tender No. & nature	Short description of stores	Value of tender set (non-refundable)	Last date & time for submission of tender
1	S-9/Cham-1/Local/125/99-2000 dt. 22-02-2000	Ortho Film	Tk. 100/-	On 15-03-2000 at 11-00 AM
2	S-6/Cham-3/Local/96/99-2000 dt. 23-02-2000	Veterinary Medicine	Tk. 1900/-	On 12-03-2000 at 11-00 AM
3	S-6/Cham-3/Local/98/99-2000 dt. 23-02-2000	Medicine	Tk. 100/-	On 12-03-2000 at 11-00 AM
4	S-6/Cham-3/Local/93/99-2000 dt. 23-02-2000	Veterinary Medicine	Tk. 950/-	On 13-03-2000 at 11-00 AM
5	S-6/Cham-3/Local/124/99-2000 dt. 23-2-2000	Offset Black Ink	Tk. 450/-	On 13-03-2000 at 11-00 AM
6	S-6/Cham-3/Local/102/99-2000 dt. 23-2-2000	Medicine	Tk. 850/-	On 13-03-2000 at 11-00 AM
7	S-6/Cham-3/Local/86/99-2000 dt. 23-2-2000	Medicine	Tk. 850/-	On 13-03-2000 at 11-00 AM

No tender will be sold on the date of submission of tender.

Tenders obtainable from:

- Department of Supply & Inspection, 48, Motijheel C/A (4th fl.), Dhaka.
- Department of Supply & Inspection (Shipping), C.G.O. Building, Agrabad, Chittagong.
- Department of Supply & Inspection (Shipping), 51, Farazipara Road, Khulna.
- Place for submission of tender: Department of Supply & Inspection (4th floor), 48, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.

DFP-4564-28/2
G-384Feroz Ahmad Khan
Asstt. Director (CDN)BIWTC
Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation

(An inland ship plying establishment)

No 5, Dilkusha Commercial Area, Dhaka-1000

দুধটনামুক্ত নৌ-চলাচল ও নিরাপদ যাত্রী সেবা
প্রদান করিতে বিআইডব্লিউটিসি অংশীকারাবদ্ধ

Tender Notice

Subject : Notice for offering charter of tankers carrying coastal oil products, coasters carrying goods and bay-crossing barges.

Sealed tenders are invited for chartering on monthly freight basis for a period of 5 (five) years of 3 (three) tankers and 7 (seven) coasters on as and where they are basis by Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation (BIWTC).

Tender schedule containing terms and conditions in details can be purchased from the Cash Section of the Accounts Division of this corporation on the second floor of the head office of the corporation, including Assistant General Manager (Commerce), BIWTC, 18, Strand Road, Chittagong and Assistant General Manager (Commerce), BIWTC, Railway Hospital Road, Khulna, on payment of Taka 1,000/- (one thousand) (non-refundable) on all working days during office hours. Tenders will be received in the tender box kept at the office of the undersigned till 12:00 noon on 29-03-2000 and will be opened the same day at 12:30 pm before the tenderers present (if anyone remains present). No schedule will be sold on the day of opening tender. The authority reserves the power to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.

BIWTC/PR/58/99-2000

DFP 4395-27/2

G-380

S M Ainul Karim

General Manager (Commerce)