

## Divisional office of Rajshahi WDB closed

From Abdul Wadood RAJSHAHI, May 13: The activities of Operation and Maintenance Division-2 (O&MD-2) of Water Development Board (WDB) of Rajshahi Divisional office have been suspended.

Earlier in July 1999, WDB had decided to close O&MD-2 but the Ministry of Water Resources later postponed the decision in the face of agitation programmes of the city residents.

O&MD-2 had special role in implementing flood control and irrigation projects and building and maintaining embankments alongside the river banks to protect Godagari, Charchat, Bagha and Poba upazilas of Rajshahi, Lalpur upazila of Natore and Ishwardi upazila of Pabna.

The O&MD-2 was associated with other big projects like Northern Rajshahi Irrigation Project and Chalan Beel Project.

The city dwellers enforced general strike, laid siege to WDB offices, held protest rallies and brought out processions to reverse the decision to close the office. Later the decision was postponed.

Rajshahi Shahar Rakkhya Prokhalpa Eboug Annanya Prokhalpa Bastavbayan Parishad, an organisation to protect the interest of Rajshahi, president Jamaat Khan said, "The closure of O&MD-2 is a direct blow to local people."

The Minister for water resources himself had told us that O&MD-2 will not be closed, he said. "We shall launch tougher action programmes against the unjust move," he said.

Rajshahi City Mayor Mijanur Rahman Miu said that the government had ignored the demand of the people.

**Three including child killed in road mishap**  
From Our Correspondent  
JAMALPUR, May 13: A young mother, her baby son and a rickshaw were crushed under the wheels of a speeding minibus on Jamalpur-Tangail highway in the town on April 26.

The victims who were killed on the spot have been identified as Nuraza Begum, 26, wife of Salim of village Kompapur in the town, their six-month baby son Sohag and rickshawpuller Islam Hossain, 30. They were undergoing treatment in Jamalpur General Hospital.

Witnesses said, a rickshaw carrying them and three other relatives of the victims were hit by a babitaxi from behind. The victims were thrown on the road and crushed under the wheels of the minibus coming from the opposite direction.

Police seized the minibus, but the babitaxi driver managed to escape with the vehicle.

A case was filed with the Sadar thana in this connection.

**'Mysterious meter' recovered from shrimp trader**  
COXS BAZAR, May 13: Following alert that gun-toting terrorists are active on Cox's Bazar-Jessore air route, security personnel on Thursday recovered a "mysterious meter" from a shrimp businessman while about to board a cargo plane at the airport, officials said, reports UNB.

Intelligence personnel caught Shafiqul Alam, managing director of Al Mansur hatchery in Teknaf, along with the clock-shaped meter that also looks like a timer in the morning.

One of his employees, Abdul Jabbar, who was also held by the intelligence personnel, could manage to escape after they were handed over to airport authorities.

Official sources said the two men were caught when the intelligence personnel found Jabbar through barbed-wire fences handing over a bag to Alam who was about to board a cargo plane with fish fry to carry from Cox's Bazar to Jessore.

The meter found inside the bag might be used as a device in any subversive act," intelligence sources said. Now they are examining its functions.

Earlier, the government alerted the intelligence and security personnel that cargo planes are used to reach arms and ammunition to southwest-ern districts from coastal Cox's Bazar while carrying shrimps and fry.

**Switzerland Dev Corporation team in Khulna**  
KHULNA, May 13: A delegation of Switzerland Development Corporation (SDC) visited Khulna on May 8. The delegation met with Mayor Shaikh Tayebur Rahman, Khulna City Corporation (KCC), at his residence, reports BSS.

The Mayor discussed the plans and programmes and future schemes of KCC including pollution, garbage, sanitation system and poverty with the delegation. The Mayor also asked the delegation members to extend its cooperation to KCC.

Among others, Deputy Chief of SDC A Deneker Shusan Muler, Urban Specialist of the World Bank Dr Tanvir Hasan, Chief Executive of KCC Fazal Abu Munsur, KCC Chief Engineer Liakat Ali Sharif and Chief Executive Director of Proddipon Ferdousur Rahman were present on the occasion.

# Rangpur now an unhealthy town

## Shyama Sundari canal silted up

From Mozammel Haq

RANGPUR, May 13: The 13-kilometre long renowned "Shyama Sundari" canal is being filled up with garbage.

This has been posing a threat to public health. Bad smell coming out from the silted garbage has been polluting the environment. This canal was dug in 1890 by the then Zamindar (land lord) of Dimla

Raja Janaki Ballav Sen who named it after his mother Shyama Sundari.

He had dug the canal to drain out stagnant water from the town. So it had been connected with the River Ghaghata. The canal penetrated the town touching Dhap, Pashari Para, Kerani Para, Munshipara, Engineer Para, Gomista Para, Sen-

para, Mulaole, Tetultola, Gup-tapara, Bairagi Para and Mahigonj.

Here is a popular story that previously the town had been turned into an ideal breeding ground of mosquitoes, flies and other insects. Frequently the town dwellers had been attacked with malaria, typhoid and other serious diseases. At

that time there had been no arrangement to drain out stagnant water from the town. Following digging of the canal by the then Zamindar of Dimla the town became free from mosquitoes and insects, elderly people said.

Now after 110 years the canal itself once again has been turned into an ideal place of mosquitoes, flies and other insects. The canal has been turned into a dumping ground of garbage, stools and other things. Most of the latrines and safety tanks adjacent to the canal have been connected with the canal ingoring health hazards of the town dwellers. All the drains of the town, both new and old, have been linked with the canal to drain out dirty water. But the canal has been silted up as it lost its smooth flow.

People of Rangpur town and different socio-cultural organisations have been demanding reexcavation of the canal for a long time, but the municipality authorities are yet to pay heed to their demands. It has been alleged that due to acute fund shortage the municipal authorities had been unable to reexcavate the canal.

A spokesman of Rangpur Municipality told this correspondent that a survey work had been underway. They have got an assurance from the higher authorities regarding sanctioning of fund for its excavation work, but the spokesman could not tell when the scheme would be materialised. An immediate step should be taken up for re-excavation of the canal.



Misuse of canal  
Partial view of Shyama Sundari canal. The snap was taken from the Kutchery Bazaar area in Rangpur town. Famous Keramatia Mosque is seen in the background.

— Star photo

## Nor'wester victims pass hard days in Kushtia

From Our Correspondent

KUSHTIA, May 13: At least three people were killed and over one hundred injured as norwesters lashed six upazilas in district recently.

The norwesters also caused damages to standing Boro paddy, besides tobacco, banana, maize, betel leaf, sunflower, vegetables and other crops.

The storms also damaged a large number of houses rendering at least 5,000 people homeless. Affected people have not yet been provided with any relief materials either from Red Crescent Society or from the government. They are passing days. They have taken shelters in public places.

According to preliminary report, the loss due to storm was estimated at Taka one crore.

A teenage boy was killed by lightning at Daulatpur upazila during storm. The boy was

working in a betel farm. He was identified as Sohel, 14.

The other two were killed in house collapses. One victim was identified as Izam, 18, of Poradaha union. The identity of the other could not be known.

A storm at a speed of 90 kilometer per hour lashed Kushtia Sadar, Kumarkhali, Khoksa and Mirpur upazilas on April 26 morning.

Another storm swept over all the six upazilas of the district on April 28. Again on 29 a storm lashed the entire district, causing widespread damage to crops and houses. Another storm swept over Sadar upazila on May 2, leaving a trail of destruction in nine villages of Ujagram union. The affected villages are Baruipara, Karimpur, Shaympu, Mrittikapara, Durbachara, Sonaidanga, Gajnapur, Ujagram and Ranjitpur. At least 500 people were

rendered homeless as their houses were destroyed by the storm.

The storm also damaged Naturia High School of Bagul union of Kumarkhali upazila. Two rooms of the school were badly damaged. The storm also damaged Bahauddin High School under Sadar upazila.

UNB from Bagerhat adds: A young man was killed and two others were injured in lightning during a norwester at village Alodai under Sadar upazila on Wednesday.

The norwester accompanied by thunderstorm and rains swept over the district for about half an hour from 6-15 pm damaging over 200 to 300 houses and uprooting a large number of trees.

The identity of the dead could not be known. The injured were admitted to hospital.



Hot spell a boon for water melon vendors

An unbearable hot spell is continuing for the last few days in Sirajganj district. Continued rising temperature has made life miserable for people of all walks of life. But sufferings of low income group have multiplied due to such weather condition. Taking advantage of this situation watermelon vendors are doing a brisk business. Exhausted passers-by, rickshawpullers, day labourers and others are thronging in greater number around footpath vendors of watermelons. Picture shows some thirsty people are quenching their thirst taking sliced melon from a roadside vendor in Sirajganj town.

— Star photo by Akhteruzzaman Bablu

## 900 prisoners living in Naogaon jail with a capacity of 101 inmates

NAOGAON, May 13: Over 900 prisoners have been condemned to live a sub-human life in the district jail which has capacity to accommodate only 101 inmates, according to a study report, reports UNB.

The study conducted by Bangladesh Manobadhikar Commission revealed that there are 62 women among the inmates of the prison.

It said the prison was constructed during British period for 20 prisoners and later in 1947 its accommodation capacity was raised to 103.

"In the last 50 years, the number of inmates increased nine times but its amenities did not rise accordingly," said an official of the commission.

Also among the prisoners are four children who were born in the jail, he said.

He said four wards and one of the 15 cells of the jail are now in dilapidated condition and prisoners are living there with a risk of life.

Of the cells, two are used as food godowns while another as doctor's chamber.

The report said each ward that can hardly accommodate 70 inmates is crowded with over 140 inmates, forcing them to

pass sleepless nights.

Allegations are also there that jail wardens take bribe from the visitors.



Give democracy a chance

A B M Akram Hossain, President of Natore district unit of Fair Election Monitoring Alliance (FEMA) recently handing over the recommendations of electoral law reforms of FEMA to Md Ruhul Quddus Talukder (Dulu), Member of Parliament (MP) of Natore Sadar Constituency-2.

— FEMA photo

## Three abducted persons rescued in Chittagong

From Our Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, May 13: Three abducted persons were rescued and five criminals arrested in three separate incidents in the city on Thursday.

Kotwali thana police in a pre-dawn raid at Golap Singha Lane of Nandan Kanon area rescued three abducted persons.

The rescued persons were identified as Md Harun, Md Morshed and Subhash Kanti Ghosh, who were abducted from a department store in Jubilee Road area on Wednesday night.

Police also arrested the kidnaper identified as Ilias, 25.

In another raid, Double Mooring thana police arrested a terrorist identified as Abdul Matin, 35, from Berek Building crossing area in connection with eight criminal cases, including murder, extortion and terrorism.

Meanwhile, the Double Mooring thana police, in another drive, held three criminals with a gun from WAPDA colony area.

The criminals, who were allegedly taking preparation for mugging, were identified as Alauddin, Md Jamal and Romel.

## News snaps

### Two get life term

KURIGRAM, May 13: A court here recently convicted two people and sentenced them to life term in prison in the sensational Shabar Ali murder case, reports UNB.

The convicts — Abdul Baten and Alamgir Hossain — were also fined Tk 5,000 each, in default, to suffer one year more rigorous imprisonment. According to prosecution, Baten and his accomplice Alamgir had invited Shabar Ali of Pathanpara in Ulipur thana and slaughtered him on May 14, 1997 following a brawl over non-payment of loans. Elder brother of the victim Omar Ali Khan filed a case against six people the following day. After examining witnesses and records, Additional District and Sessions Judge Mahfuza Begum handed down the judgment.

**Tk 372.69 cr agri loan outstanding**  
MYMENSINGH, May 13: A total of about Taka 372.69 crore agriculture loan, disbursed by 6 banks, remained outstanding in the district up to the month of February this year, reports BSS.

The District Committee for Agriculture Loan, formed by the banks, in a meeting reviewed the overall position of realisation of outstanding loan. The meeting held recently took some decision on realisation of outstanding loan.

### Cub camp concludes

MANIKGANJ, May 13: The District Cub Camp -2000 concluded at the Government High School ground on Sunday, reports BSS.

Tabu Jalsa', the concluding function, was held in the evening. Sheikh Mozahar Uddin, Deputy Commissioner of Manikganj was present at the Tabu Jalsa', as the chief guest, while M Sekander Ali Sarder, Regional Field Commissioner of Bangladesh Scouts, Dhaka, was the special guest. The concluding function was chaired by Shamsuddin Ahmed, ADM and Campury chief.



Bangladesh Export Processing Zone Authority

222 New Eskaton Road, Dhaka-1000

No. BEPZA/CE-09/99/35

Dated: 30-04-2000

## Tender Notice

No. 35/99-2000

Sealed tenders are invited from contractors as per eligibility for the undermentioned works under Bangladesh Export Processing Zone Authority:

Sl No.	Name of work	Estimated cost (in Taka)	Eligibility of contractor	Prescribed time for completion of work	Price tender document (in Taka) (non-refundable)
1)	Construction of a 'B' type residential building at Syedpur EPZ, Sangalshi, Nilphamari project area.	Tk 93,35,430/=	Govt./semi-govt./autonomous organisation enlisted contractors having experience of minimum Tk 47 lakh worth building construction work under a single work order.	365 (three hundred sixty-five) days	Tk 1,500.00
2)	Construction of a 'D' type residential building at Syedpur EPZ, Sangalshi, Nilphamari Project area.	Tk 60,70,921/=	Govt./semi-govt./autonomous organisation enlisted contractors having experience of minimum Tk 31 lakh worth building construction work under a single work order.	240 (two hundred forty) days	Tk 1,500.00
3)	Construction of GM Bungalow at Syedpur EPZ, Sangalshi, Nilphamari Project area.	Tk 37,91,352/=	Govt./semi-govt./autonomous organisation enlisted contractors having experience of minimum Tk 19 lakh worth building construction work under a single work order.	120 (one hundred twenty) days	Tk 1,000.00
4)	Construction of approach road at Syedpur EPZ, Sangalshi, Nilphamari Project area.	Tk 34,65,278/=	Govt./semi-govt./autonomous organisation enlisted contractors having experience of minimum Tk 18 lakh worth road construction work under a single work order.	90 (ninety) days	Tk 1,000.00
5)	Construction of boundary wall at Syedpur EPZ, Sangalshi, Nilphamari project's residential area. (Group A)	Tk 20,97,500/=	Govt./semi-govt./autonomous organisation enlisted contractors having experience of minimum Tk 11 lakh worth civil construction work under a single work order.	90 (ninety) days	Tk 750.00
6)	Construction of boundary wall at Syedpur EPZ, Sangalshi, Nilphamari project's residential area. (Group-B)	Tk 20,97,500/=	Govt./semi-govt./autonomous organisation enlisted contractors having experience of minimum Tk 11 lakh worth civil construction work under a single work order.	90 (ninety) days	Tk 750.00
7)	Installation of water supply line at Syedpur EPZ, Sangalshi, Nilphamari Project area. (Group-A)	Tk 21,10,281/=	Govt./semi-govt./autonomous organisation enlisted contractors having experience of minimum Tk 11 (eleven) lakh worth water supply line installation work under a single work order.	90 (ninety) days	Tk 750.00
8)	Installation of water supply line at Syedpur EPZ, Sangalshi, Nilphamari Project area. (Group-B)	Tk 17,48,119/=	Govt./semi-govt./autonomous organisation enlisted contractors having experience of minimum Tk 9 (nine) lakh worth water supply line installation work under a single work order.	90 (ninety) days	Tk 750.00
9)	Construction of one 'C' type residential building at Comilla EPZ, Comilla Airport Project area.	Tk 79,27,145/=	Govt./semi-govt./autonomous organisation enlisted contractors having experience of minimum Tk 40 (forty) lakh worth building construction work under a single work order.	270 (two hundred seventy) days	Tk 1,500.00

Not more than one work worth above Tk one crore will be given to one contractor for zones & project under BEPZA.

Separate tenders should be submitted for each work. Earnest money stated in the tender should be submitted through Bank Draft/Pay Order from any scheduled bank in favour of 'BEPZA' with the tender.

Contractors must submit attested true copy of the undermentioned documents in support of their eligibility with the tender. Otherwise tender will be treated as cancelled.

- 1) Current year trade licence.
- 2) Contractor's current year enlistment certificate.
- 3) TIN certificate from Income Tax Authority in favour of the contractor & VAT registration certificate.
- 4) Work order & work completion certificate from an officer of minimum Executive Engineer's status.

If any document submitted with the tender is found to be fake or forged, then earnest money submitted with the tender will be forfeited & the tender be cancelled.

Tenders can be purchased from BEPZA Executive Office, 222 New Eskaton Road, Dhaka, Chittagong EPZ, South Halishahar, Chittagong; Dhaka EPZ, Ganakbari, Savar, Dhaka; Syedpur EPZ, Nilphamari (for the works at Serial Nos. 1 to 8); Comilla EPZ, Comilla (only for the work at Serial No. 9); and all Divisional Commissioners' Office, the prescribed price of tender should be paid through Pay Order/ Bank Draft from any scheduled bank in favour of 'BEPZA'. Acknowledgment receipt/money receipt received in support of paying the said amount should be enclosed with the tender.

Tenders will be received at the office chamber of Chief Engineer of BEPZA Executive Office, at the office chamber of Project Engineer at Chittagong & Dhaka EPZ and at all Divisional Commissioners' office. Besides, tenders for the works at Serial Nos. 1-8 will be received at Project Engineer's Office Chamber, Syedpur EPZ & that for only the work at Serial No. 9 at the office Chamber of Project Engineer, Comilla EPZ, up to 12-00 Noon of 29-05-2000.

Tenders submitted at different divisions/offices will be opened only at the Office Chamber of Chief Engineer, BEPZA Executive Office on 31-05-2000 at 10-00 AM in presence (if any) of the tenderers.

If, under any circumstance, the last date of selling tender happens to be a govt. holiday, then tender can be purchased up to the next working day, and in that case tenders can be submitted up to the next day of the changed last date of purchase. If the date of submitting/opening tender happens to be a govt. holiday, then it can be submitted/opened on the next working day.

If tender is submitted at the lowest limit i.e. 10% below the estimated cost as per terms & conditions of tender, then lottery will be held on the next day of the opening date of tender i.e. 01-06-2000 at 3-00 pm in presence of the tenderers concerned. If the documents submitted by the 1st successful tenderer in the lottery are found to be correct after scrutiny, then the firm will be issued work order. Otherwise documents of 2nd & 3rd tenderer will be scrutinised and, consecutively, steps will be taken to issue work order.

The authority reserves the right to accept any one or reject any one or all of the submitted tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

DFP-10898-7/5  
G-899

Abu Reza Khan  
Chief Engineer.