

Fiji army asks C'wealth team to delay visit

SUVA, Fiji, June 9: Fiji's military said it had asked a delegation of British Commonwealth ministers to delay a visit to the troubled South Pacific country, reports Reuters.

On June 6, Commonwealth foreign ministers suspended Fiji from the group's decision-making councils after the military took control last month in response to a political hostage crisis, now in its third week.

"We've asked the delegation to postpone their visit due to start today (Friday) for about a week to allow us time to better appraise the situation," Colonel Filipo Tarakinikini told Reuters.

Tarakinikini said the government had not yet received a reply to its request, which was conveyed to the London office of the Commonwealth Ministers Action Committee (CMAC).

CMAC has called for a timetable to be set for the restoration of constitutional rule and for the release of Fiji's first ethnic Indian prime minister, Mahendra Chaudhry, and other government ministers being held hostage.

The military government has proposed ruling Fiji under the command of Commodore Frank Bainimarama for up to three months to allow for establishment of a new civilian administration.

Rebel leader George Speight and his supporters want the military government disbanded immediately in favour of a civilian government run by indigenous Fijians before releasing the hostages.

AP adds, An influential delegation of tribal chiefs met with Fiji's coup leader George Speight today, but they went away with no word on a deal to free the hostages.

Meanwhile, US Ambassador Osman Siddique branded Speight a terrorist and said he should be brought to trial. That is unlikely to happen as Fiji's new military rulers have already promised Speight and his supporters immunity from prosecution.

"I don't think he should get immunity. He is a common criminal, a terrorist and justice should be served to him," Siddique said.

The chiefs, from Fiji's economically powerful western provinces, want Speight to bring an end to the three-week standoff by releasing his hostages.

Although the chiefs carry little political power, they believed their economic muscle could be decisive in persuading Speight.

They spent about two hours at Speight's camp in the parliamentary complex where he

seized the hostages on May 19, but no progress in ending the standoff was reported.

"It was a good meeting, a great meeting," Speight said later without elaboration.

"A lot of the basis on which our economy relies is based in the western division — sugar, tourism, mining, pine," the delegation's leader, Ratu Osea Gavid, said before the meeting.

"Altogether, if you add that up it comes to about 1 billion dollars (US 500 million dollar) in foreign exchange" each year, he said.

The chiefs, all dressed in traditional skirts, gave no details of their presentation as they left parliament but they were understood to support Speight's view that a civilian government and not the army should be installed as an interim administration to guide Fiji back to democracy.

The chiefs then went to visit Fiji's military rulers, who seized power only after Speight had thrown Fiji into crisis, after their meeting with the rebels.

In a statement released after the meeting, the military said the chiefs had presented a proposed solution to the crisis and the army had noted it.

"No decision was reached, nor was one expected," the military said.



Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat (L) meets Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in Cairo yesterday. Arafat's visit to Cairo comes before his upcoming summit with US President Bill Clinton in Washington. — AFP photo

Truce in Solomon Islands C'wealth peace mission due today

SYDNEY, June 9: A truce between warring factions in the Solomon Islands conflict was holding today ahead of the arrival on Saturday of a Commonwealth mission seeking a formula to avert civil war, reports AFP.

The delegation, to be led by Australian Foreign Minister Alexander Downer, was due to leave Australia for the Solomon Islands capital, Honiara, on an RAAF VIP jet Friday, but its departure was delayed for undisclosed reasons.

It is now due to leave the northern city of Townsville at dawn and will arrive around lunchtime for talks that will begin almost immediately with key government ministers and leaders of the two rebel groups.

New Zealand Foreign Minister Phil Goff, Botswana's for-

eign minister and a special representative of Malaysia's prime minister will accompany Downer amid rising hopes a peace formula can be thrashed out.

The Australian troopship HMAS Tobruk left Honiara on Friday carrying 400 to 500 expatriates, mainly women and children, after the remainder of the 1300 foreigners in the Solomon Islands decided it was safe enough to stay.

After bitter fighting on Wednesday, the two factions agreed Thursday to a ceasefire guaranteeing the Commonwealth team safe passage to land at Honiara's airport, the frontline of the conflict with opposing armies dug in on both sides.

A plane carrying Euro-MPs and diplomats was raked with

machine-gun fire as it tried to leave on Thursday.

But Andrew Nori, leader of the Malaita Eagle Force (MEF), which kidnapped Prime Minister Bartholomew Ulufa'alu and seized control of Honiara on Monday, promised a truce until the departure of the mission.

Ulufa'alu was reported to have been released from armed guard by the MEF for the second time on Friday.

The Isatabu Freedom Movement (IFM) issued a statement saying it had agreed to a 14-day truce on the understanding peace negotiations would be resumed within seven days of the start of the truce.

"The IFM renews its commitment to finding a peaceful solution to the ethnic unrest on (Guadalcanal) island," it added.

Fresh legal blow to Suharto

JAKARTA, June 9: An Indonesian court today rejected a bid by former President Suharto to free him from house arrest and to end a prolonged corruption probe into his wealth, a court official said, reports AP.

The decision by the South Jakarta district court was the second ruling in three days to go against the ex-dictator, who turned 79 on Thursday.

Last month, Attorney-General Marzuki Darusman banned Suharto from leaving his Jakarta home in a bid to compel him to cooperate with the investigation.

Darusman invoked the house arrest order after Suharto repeatedly failed to show up to questioning sessions by prosecutors.

Suharto's lawyers filed the lawsuit last Friday, demanding that the house arrest order be overturned and that the corruption probe be cancelled.

The lawyers and family members contend that Suharto, who has suffered a series of strokes, is too ill to be questioned over allegations that he used charitable foundations under his control to steal millions of dollars in state funds during his 32 years in power.

Illegal immigrants stage protest in Australia

CANBERRA, June 9: Up to 500 illegal immigrants refused to return to an outback Australian detention centre today after a night in the cold, protesting about conditions and calling for asylum, immigration officials said, reports Reuters.

About 520 men, women and children broke out of the Woomera detention centre in South Australia on Thursday, injuring three guards in the process, and walked five km into the nearest town where they have camped in the supermarket carpark.

The Woomera camp, about 350 km northwest of Adelaide, is the largest of Australia's three detention centres, housing about 1,400 people mainly from Iraq, Iran and Afghanistan while they await assessment on their cases.

No attempts have been made to remove them from the carpark and negotiations between the group and immigration officials to get them to return to the centre were continuing.

Harrowing plight of widows in Africa, South Asia

Only 25pc receive share of husband's estate in Bangladesh: Study

UNITED NATIONS, June 9: In Tanzania, at least 500 widows were stoned to death or otherwise murdered as suspected witches over the past year, women's activists say, while in parts of Nigeria, widows are not allowed to wash for an entire year after their husband's death to prove that they didn't kill him, reports AP.

These are just two examples of the harrowing plight of widows denounced by grassroots groups at a panel Thursday on the myths and realities of widowhood.

Women in Africa and South Asia face a kind of "social death" when their husbands die: They are disinherited, rejected, even raped or killed, activists said.

"At a time when they are most vulnerable, in the shock of losing their husbands, they are systematically hounded from their homes, robbed of their household possessions, and forced into destitution by male relatives," said Margaret Owen of Empowering Widows in Development, a London-based grassroots group that tries to create networks of widows to improve their status.

In Bangladesh, for example, only 25 per cent of widows actually receive any share of their husband's estate, said Owen, the author of a study on widowhood across the world.

In certain areas of Africa, the widows themselves are seen as part of their husband's inheritance, said Eleanor Nwadinobi, president of the Nigeria-based Widows Development Organisation, a voluntary group.

"Widows have no succession rights to their husband's property because they are chattels to be inherited along with land and household property by the deceased's brother," said Nwadinobi, describing the results of case studies in south-eastern Nigeria.

In some cases, even the custody of a widow's children is transferred to her husband's family, said Joanna Foster, regional coordinator of Women in Law and Development in Africa, headquartered in Zimbabwe.

In Nigeria, a widow may be forced to sit on the floor at times half naked — for 28 days, said Nwadinobi. She will be forced to wear black clothes for a year and not allowed to bathe.

After a year, women are brought to a river to be purified and their clothes are burned.

Widows have been left off the agenda at this week's UN General Assembly special session to accelerate progress toward women's equality, attended by ministers from over 180 countries, advocates said Thursday.

"Widows are noticeable only by their absence from the 150-page platform for action adopted at the 1995 UN women's conference in Beijing, and from the final document that will emerge from this week's follow-up UN session, Owen said.

"There is a silence about the number of women who are murdered because they are widows," in Tanzania last year, she noted, at least 500 widows "accused of being witches were stoned to death or killed in other terrible ways."

Widows are targets because they are suspected of having killed their husbands, or because they have already experienced sex but are no longer linked to a man, Owen said.

The lack of attention means there are few statistics relating to widowhood, but the numbers appear to be increasing as AIDS and wars sweep through Africa.

Philippine rebels demand \$ 1m ransom for each hostage

JOLO, Philippines, June 9: Philippine Muslim rebels confirmed today they were demanding one million dollars ransom for each of the 21 mostly foreign hostages they are holding in the southern island of Jolo, reports AFP.

"That is confirmed," said Abu Sayyaf spokesman Abu Sabaya in a radio interview monitored in the nearby city of Zamboanga.

A government emissary, speaking on condition of anonymity and involved in efforts to release the hostages, had told AFP of the ransom demand on June 2 but the authorities have refused to confirm it.

The emissary had said the ransom demand was a key fac-

tor stalling negotiations for the release of the hostages from Germany, France, Finland, South Africa, Malaysia, the Philippines and Lebanon.

All previous Abu Sayyaf kidnappings have ended with money being paid to the rebels — normally under the guise of "board and lodging" expenses for the captives.

A government negotiator said Friday they would enquire about the ransom in the next round of talks with the rebels.

"We will ask them if they want that. So far there is no talk about that. Hopefully, we can take it up if that is one of their demands," said Parouk Hussin, a peace campaigner in the five-member government panel of negotiators.

Hussin and another negotiator, former Libyan envoy to Manila Rajab Azzarouq, met with four Abu Sayyaf leaders Friday to lay the ground for a broader meeting on Saturday involving the entire government team and the guerrilla leadership.

It was not immediately clear whether the ransom demand was put on the table.

Sulu provincial Governor Abdusakur Tan said the two negotiators told the rebel leaders that Manila could not give in to their demand for an independent Islamic state in the south and the creation of a panel to investigate alleged human rights abuses against Filipino immigrants in the east Malaysian state of Sabah.

China slams US call for revisions of ABM treaty

BEIJING, June 9: Accusing the United States of "selfishness," China reiterated today its opposition to revisions of a key arms control treaty, changes that Beijing says would undermine global stability, reports AP.

Joining forces on the issue, Chinese President Jiang Zemin and Russian President Vladimir Putin affirmed their shared opposition to revisions of the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty in a telephone conversation Thursday.

Lead arms negotiator Sha Zukang said that any revision to the ABM treaty would "seriously hinder nuclear disarmament" and would trigger a global arms race in space, the state-run Xinhua News Agency reported today.

Sha contended that revising the treaty out of "selfishness" would endanger world security and undermine US interests.

The United States should "think carefully before taking any action" so as to not "lift a rock only to drop it on its toes,"

Xinhua cited Sha as saying in an exclusive interview.

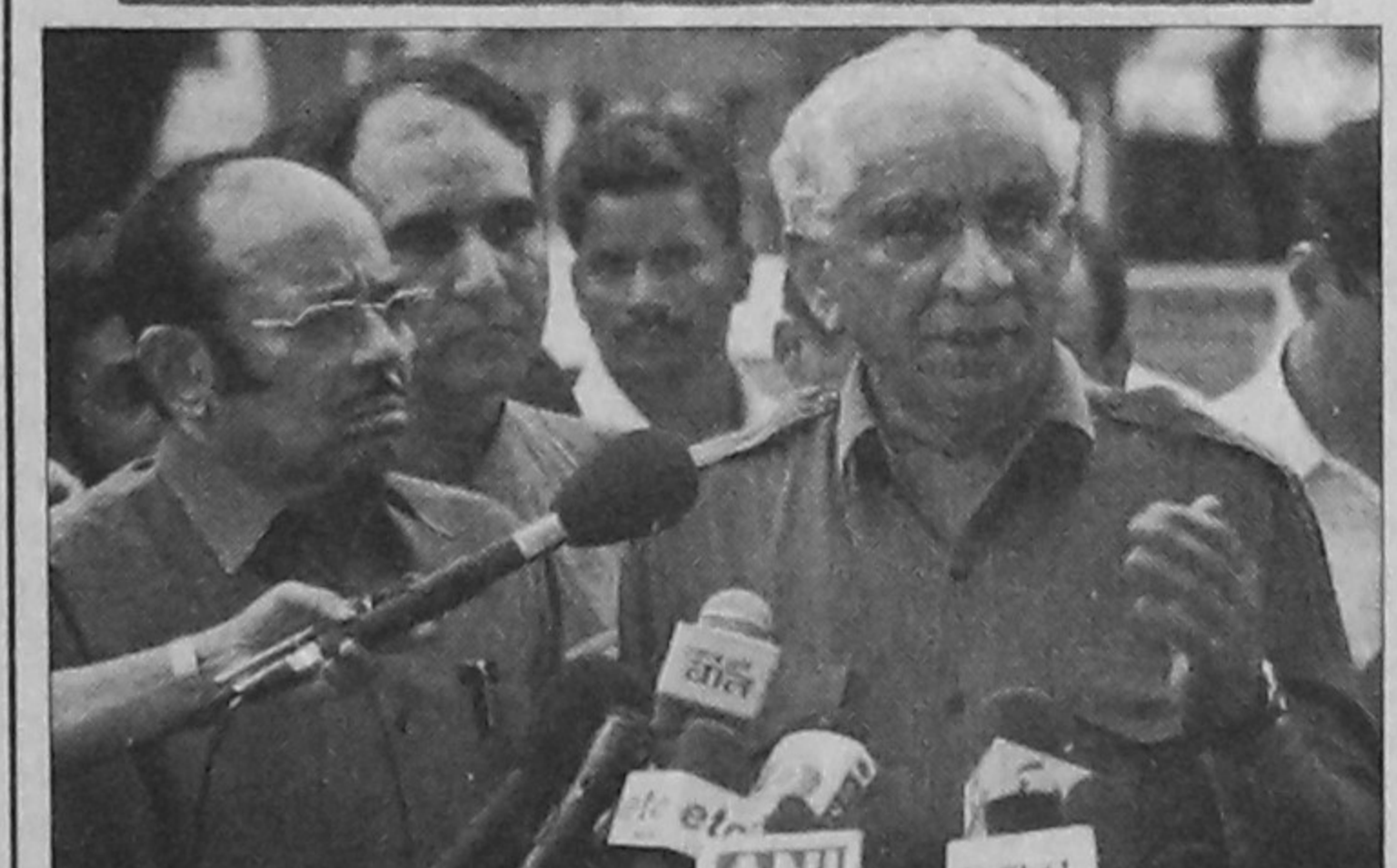
Washington wants to revise the treaty to allow the development of a new missile defence system that Beijing fears may be used to defend Taiwan, which China views as a part of its territory that must be united with the mainland, by force if necessary.

Inclusion of Taiwan in such a system "seriously infringes on China's sovereignty and territorial integrity and is a gross interference into China's internal affairs — something the Chinese people will never allow," Sha was cited as saying.

The United States contends a missile defence system is necessary to counter the threat of rogue states. Beijing argues that it would merely expand the arms race into space.

If the plan is carried out, space will become a new weapons base and battlefield," Sha said, adding that other world powers would not just "sit and look on unconcernedly."

BRIEFLY



Indian Minister for External Affairs Jaswant Singh (R) gestures as he and Commerce Minister Murali Manan (L) brief reporters outside Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee's residence following a cabinet meeting in New Delhi on Thursday. Singh, commenting on the current crisis in Sri Lanka, said it was up to the island nation to take care of its own internal affairs, inferring that India, though concerned, had no intention of interfering. — AFP photo

Iraq executes Jordanian national: Iraq has executed a Jordanian national for taking part in a plot against "Iraq and its leadership," local newspapers reported Friday, Reuters reports from Baghdad.

The papers, quoting a source at the Iraqi Foreign Ministry, said Dawood Salman al-Daloo, who was arrested in 1993, was later sentenced to death by an Iraqi court. They said Daloo confessed to "belonging to an espionage and sabotage network (directed) against Iraq and its leadership." It was not known what kind of plot he was charged with.

HIV infection developed around 1931

WASHINGTON, June 8: Humans were first infected with the Human Immune-deficiency Virus (HIV) around 1931, according to a new study due to appear today in the magazine Science, reports AFP.

The new study, led by Professor Bette Korber of Los Alamos National Laboratory, was based on the theory that HIV evolves at a regular rhythm, and used a "molecular clock" analysis with the aid of supercomputers.

The scientists looked at how long before HIV the last common ancestor of the disease, the so-called "M group," had come into existence.

"We estimate the date of the last common ancestor of the main group of HIV-1 to be 1931," said Korber, after results indicated the year most likely was between 1915 and 1941.

The author worked with the assumption that the genes mutate at a constant rate over time.

In a separate article, Professor David Hillis of the University of Texas at Austin said the virus may have been transmitted from ape to man at the turn of the century, remaining isolated in a tiny group of people until around 1930.

"The virus may have jumped over to humans around 1930 and begun spreading immediately, or multiple strains may have been transmitted in the 1940s and 50s," Hillis wrote.

He said that establishing the date of emergence of HIV was crucial "to elucidating how transmission occurred and to finding ways to prevent zoonotic transmission (transmission of animal diseases) to people in the future."

Killing of diplomat November 17 group claims responsibility

ATHENS, June 9: The Greek urban guerrilla group November 17 claimed responsibility today for the assassination of British defence attaché Stephen Saunders, saying they killed him for his role in what they dubbed the "nazi crime" of NATO's bombing of Yugoslavia last year, reports AFP.

The group sent a 13-page justification of the murder to the independent leftist daily Eleftherotypia, which published the document in full on Friday, as it had often done in the past.

The group said it had assassinated Brigadier Saunders because he had "participated in the planning of (NATO's) bombardments against Yugoslavia," and as such was one of the people responsible for "last year's nazi crime and the deaths of thousands of civilians."

The document also railed against what it termed "the level of barbarity" of Western democracies, likening the NATO offensive to Hitler's annexing of then-Czechoslovakia during World War II.

"Hitler violated the accord he signed in Munich which recognised the sovereignty of a large part of Czechoslovakia," and in the same way NATO officials violated United Nations resolution 1244, which they themselves had imposed," the statement said.



ঢাকা সিটি কর্পোরেশন প্রকৌশল বিভাগ, অঞ্চল-১

আপনার পরিবেশ সুন্দর ও পরিষ্কার রাখুন
আপনার শিক্তে টিকা দিন

পুনঃ দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

নিম্নে বর্ণিত কাজগুলির জন্য ঢাকা সিটি কর্পোরেশনের তালিকাভুক্ত সকল শ্রেণীর ঠিকাদারগণের নিকট হইতে বাংলাদেশ ফরম নং ২৯১১তে সীলমোহরকৃত যামে দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাইতেছে। আগামী ০৫-৬-২০০০ বাৎ/১৯-৬-২০০০ইং তারিখ বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকার সময় বিভাগীয় কমিশনার ঢাকা, জেলা প্রশাসক ঢাকা এবং ঢাকা সিটি কর্পোরেশনের সকল অঞ্চলের প্রকৌশল বিভাগ কর্তৃক দরপত্র গ্রহণ করা হইবে এবং ঐ দিনই বেলা ১২.৩০ ঘটিকার সময় উপস্থিত দরপত্রদাতা অথবা তাহাদের প্রতিনিধিগণের সম্মুখে (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) খোলা হইবে। শতকরা হারে দর অঙ্কে এবং কথায় উভয়ই লিখিত হইবে। অনাধায় দরপত্র বাতিল বলিয়া গণ্য করা হইবে। ঢাকা সিটি কর্পোরেশনের মেয়র মহোদয়ের অনুকূলে বাংলাদেশের সিভিলিয়ান ব্যাংকের ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/পে-অর্ডারের মাধ্যমে বায়নার টাকা দরপত্রের সহিত জমা দিতে হইবে। ঢাকা সিটি কর্পোরেশনের সকল অঞ্চলের প্রকৌশল বিভাগ এবং হিসাব বিভাগের হিসাবরক্ষক এর নিকট হইতে প্রতি সেট নির্ধারিত মূল্যে ঢালানের মাধ্যমে জমাদানপূর্বক (অফিসেরযোগ্য) দরপত্রের শর্তাবলী, সিভিলিয়ান ইত্যাদি জমা করা যাইবে। এতদসংক্রান্ত বিবরণ অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে ঢাকা সিটি কর্পোরেশনের অঞ্চল-১ এর নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর দপ্তরে জানা যাইবে। কোন দরপত্রদাতা দরপত্রের প্রাক্কলিত দরের ৫% এর অধিক উর্ধ্ব অথবা নিম্ন দর প্রদান করিলে দরপত্রটি বাতিল বলিয়া গণ্য করা হইবে। সর্বনিম্ন প্রদত্ত দর একাধিক পাওয়া গেলে লটারির মাধ্যমে ঠিকাদার নির্ধারণ করা হইবে। দরপত্র খোলার তারিখে দরপত্রের কোন দলিলপত্র বিক্রয় করা হইবে না। যে কোন বা সমুদয় দরপত্র কোন কারণ দর্শানো বাতিরেকেই গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করিবার ক্ষমতা কর্তৃকক্ষের সংরক্ষিত থাকিবে।

ক্রমিক নং	কাজের নাম	প্রাক্কলিত টাকা	বায়নার টাকা	সময়সীমা
১।	৮-৩ নং ওয়ার্ডের আওতাধীন ফরিদাবাদ এলাকায় নবীনচন্দ্র গোস্বামী রোড বারাদুর পুর লেন, লাল মোহন পোন্ধার লেন, এবং ফরিদাবাদ লেনে পানির লাইন পুনর্বাসন কাজ খননকৃত রাস্তার মোরামত।	টা-৪,৯৬,২৫৯/-	টা-১৪,৯৭৮/-	৪০ দিন
২।	ওয়ার্ড কর্তৃক খননকৃত মীর হাজীরবাগ ও পশ্চিম যাত্রাবাড়ী এলাকায় রাস্তার মোরামত কাজ।	টা-৪,৩৮,২৫৭/-	টা-১৩,১৯৮/-	৩৫ দিন
৩।	আর, কে, মিশন রোড বাইলেনে পানির লাইন পুনর্বাসন কাজের জন্য খননকৃত রাস্তা মোরামতকরণ কাজ।	টা-৩,৩৬,০০০/-	টা-১০,০৮০/-	৩৫ দিন
৪।	স্বামীবাগ (দয়াজল) রাস্তায় ওয়াসা কর্তৃক পানির লাইন স্থাপন কাজের খননকৃত স্থান মোরামতকরণ কাজ।	টা-৮,১১,২৪০/-	টা-২,৪৩৭/-	২০ দিন
৫।	উত্তর যাত্রাবাড়ী সূতিখাল এলাকায় ওয়াসার পানির পাইপ লাইন স্থাপনের জন্য খননকৃত রাস্তা মোরামত কাজ।	টা-৪,৬৫,১৯৭/-	টা-১৩,৪৫৬/-	৪০ দিন
৬।	ওয়াসা কর্তৃক খননকৃত মীর হাজীরবাগ রোড বাইলেন ও উত্তর জুরাইন এলাকার রাস্তার মোরামত কাজ।	টা-৪,৬০,৩৯৪/-	টা-১৩,৮১৮/-	৪০ দিন
৭।	সিভিলিয়ান ইন্ডাস্ট্রিয় কর্তৃক মাতুয়াইল ল্যাড ফিলের খননকৃত এপ্রোচ সড়ক মোরামত কাজ।	টা-৪,০৭,৯৭১/-	টা-১২,২২২/-	৪০ দিন
৮।	অঞ্চল-১ এর বিভাগীয় শ্রমিক দ্বারা রাস্তা মোরামতের জন্য মালামাল সরবরাহ কাজ।	টা-৪,৯৯,৯১৯/-	টা-১৪,৯৯৮/-	৬০ দিন

ডিসিপি/পিআরডি/৪৯৩/১৯৯৯-২০০০
জিডি-৫৫৬

নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী
অঞ্চল-১ (সহকারী)
ঢাকা সিটি কর্পোরেশন।

নিলাম বিজ্ঞপ্তি

মোকামঃ সাবজজ ও অর্থস্বর্ণ, ১ম আদালত, নরসিংদী

অর্থস্বর্ণ বন্ধকী ডিং মোঃ নং ৪৫/১৯৯৪ইং

(সাবজজ ও বাণিজ্যিক আদালত নং-১, ঢাকা এর মূল দেওয়ানী মোকদ্দমা নং-২৬০/৮৬)

জনতা ব্যাংক, ইমামগঞ্জ কর্পোরেট শাখা, ঢাকা-----বাদী/ডিক্লারগণ।

বনাম

১। মেসার্স সমতা "স" মিলস এন্ড টিস্যার ওয়াকস একটি পার্টনারশীপ প্রতিষ্ঠান, ১০৯, দক্ষিণ বাড্ডা, থানা-গুলশান, ঢাকা।

২। মোঃ জামাল উদ্দিন চৌধুরী, পিতা-জালাল উদ্দিন চৌধুরী, ১নং দাইক প্রতিষ্ঠানের ব্যবস্থাপক, পার্টনার, বর্তমানে ১০৯, দক্ষিণ বাড্ডা, থানা-গুলশান, ঢাকা।

৩। মোঃ রফিকুল ইসলাম ভূইয়া, ১নং দাইক প্রতিষ্ঠানের পার্টনার, প্রযত্নে মেসার্স সমতা "স" মিলস এন্ড টিস্যার ওয়াকস, পুরান পাড়া, নরসিংদী।

৪। মিসেস শেলী আহমেদ, স্বামী মোঃ আব্দুল ফাকি চৌধুরী, সাং ও থানা-কালীগঞ্জ, জেলা-গাজীপুর।

এতদ্বারা সর্বসাধারণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাইতেছে যে, উপরোক্ত বিক্রি মোকদ্দমার বাদী ব্যাংকের দাবী মং-১৬,৫৯,৭৫৩.৫০ টাকা খরচসহ আদায়ের নিমিত্তে নিম্নতফসিল বর্ণিত সম্পত্তি আগামী ২৯-৬-২০০০ইং তারিখ রোজ বৃহস্পতিবার বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকার সময় নরসিংদী জেলা জজ আদালতের নেজারত প্রাংগনে নিলামে বিক্রি হইবে।

আগ্রহী নিলাম ক্রেতাগণকে উল্লেখিত তারিখ ও সময়ে নিলামের স্থানে উপস্থিত হইয়া নিলাম ডাকে অংশগ্রহণ করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা গেল। সর্বোচ্চ নিলাম ডাককারীকে ঐদিনই ডাকের ২৫% এবং পরবর্তী ১৫ দিনের মধ্যে বিক্রি টাকা জমা দিতে হইবে।

তফসিল

সাবেক জেলা ঢাকা হালে নরসিংদী পুরান পাড়া মৌজাস্থিত জেএল নং-২৬৮, খতিয়ান নং-১১, দাগ নং-৪৩৩, জমির পরিমাণ ৭২ শতক এবং তদোপরিস্থিত অবকাঠামো — যাহার উত্তরে মোঃ মেহের আলী, দক্ষিণে মোঃ মেহের আলী, পূর্বে-মোঃ বকুল এবং পশ্চিমে মোঃ ইদ্রিস আলী এর চৌহদ্ভিত্তিক।

আদেশক্রমে

সেরেস্তাদার

জিডি-৫৫৫

সাবজজ ও অর্থস্বর্ণ, ১ম আদালত, নরসিংদী।