

**Sirajganj DIARY**

**Mourning procession**

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, Sept 3: A mourning procession was brought out in the town today (Sunday) in memory of the four freedom fighters who were killed in a road accident in Bogra on Friday.

The mourning procession began from Sirajganj Muktijoddha Sangsad (Freedom Fighters' Council) and was participated by the leaders of Awami League, BNP, JP including journalists, lawyers, government officials and people of all strata of life. The processionists paraded the main streets of the town wearing black badges carrying national flag and black flag. District Awami League General Secretary Abu Yusuf Surja, District Commander of Muktijoddha Sangsad Gazi Aminul Huq, BNP District Joint Convenor Advocate Mokaddes Ali led the procession. Meanwhile, Home Minister Mohammad Nasim will attend a condolence meeting and a milad mahfil at 10 am tomorrow (Monday) at the District Muktijoddha Sangsad office here.

**Train derails: 30 injured**

At least 30 passengers were injured who were released after first aid treatment from hospital and clinics following derailment of a train here on Thursday. Railway police and witnesses said six bogies of Sundarban Express train which was running from Sirajganj Bazar to Rajshahi derailed at 7-50 am on Thursday. They said the derailment occurred when the train reached at Raypur Railway station. Train communication between Sirajganj-Rajshahi and Sirajganj-Ishurdi remained suspended for about 11 hours. A relief train came from Pakshey and rescued all the derailed bogies. The train communication restarted from 6 pm on the day.

**Two housewives murdered**

Two housewives were murdered in Sadar upazila here on Wednesday night. Villagers said Shewlee Khatun, 20, was allegedly strangled by her husband and in laws at village Rajakhar Char. Neighbours said Zahurul Islam, husband of the woman, often created pressure on her to bring dowry from her father. Sundry Khatun, 22, was murdered allegedly by her husband Abdul Hakim at Ragunathpur village, police said. According to villagers, the woman was killed as she protested the illicit affair of her husband with a woman. Two separate cases were lodged. But none was arrested.

**Seven BCL activists sued under PSA**

Seven BCL activists have been accused of injuring two persons, ransacking Shefa Diagnostic Centre and taking away valuables from the same premises last week. Ullapara Police have accepted a case and started an investigation under the Public Safety Act (PSA). According to police and eye witnesses 17 BCL activists led by its local leader Nabin asked the owner of Shefa Diagnostic Centre, Akram Hossain Talukder to pay an amount of Taka 10,000 as toll. Hossain refused to pay the amount and immediately informed the matter to the senior ruling Awami League leaders. Angered by the complaint, the BCL activists turned up at the diagnostic centre on August 27 and ransacked the centre. When the Shefa staffs tried to resist the unruly BCL activists unleashed a reign of terror. They used Chinese axe and seriously injured Shaheen and Ferdous of the centre. Both of them have been admitted to Sirajganj Sadar Hospital on Friday. According to Talukder who filed the case, the same group of BCL workers, on several occasions, took away money ranging from Taka 2,000 to Taka 5,000 as toll from him. He said this time the BCL activists demanded an exorbitant amount which he failed to pay. Ullapara Police admitted the fact and said the BCL activists damaged all the evidences in support of the case. Police said they would investigate the matter and submit a report accordingly. The top Awami League leader of Ullapara Maruf Ahmed could not be reached for comments despite several attempts by this correspondent. Twelve hours have already been passed after the incident, but police failed to arrest any of the accuseds.

**Jute processing made difficult**

From Alimuzzaman Miah

GOPALGANJ, Sept 3: Farmers here have been facing difficulties in decomposing jute plants due to lack of water in water bodies which have dried up. Jute plants are decomposed to separate fibres from stalks.

Growers the problem arises out of late harvest of jute. Ditches, canals and tanks have dried up because of inadequate rainfall.

Many farmers have piled up jute plants under open sky in absence of sufficient water in water bodies.

Draught like situation has been prevailing in the district. Local met office said expected rainfall did not occur in the month July and the current month of August. An official of local Met office said rainfall in the season is the lowest in the last six years in the district.

Meanwhile, some varieties of jute cultivated earlier have started arriving in local markets.

Although government rate of jute is yet to be fixed, tosa variety is selling from Tk 320 to Tk 340 per maund while local variety is being sold from Tk 250 to Tk 270 per maund in local markets.

However, jute traders are not in a position to purchase jute from farmers, as they have no cash. Jute mills have failed to pay the traders' outstanding bills for the last two years. Several jute mills in Khulna and Narayanganj owe some Taka four crore to jute traders.

According to local Agriculture Extension Department (AED), a total of 19,250 hectares of land in five upazilas in the district were brought under jute cultivation. However, the target of the jute cultivation was not achieved this season.

UNB from Madaripur says: Jute price continues to show a downward spiral in the district, hitting the nerves of embattled growers.

Market sources said jute is now selling at Tk 350 per maund against Tk 400 two weeks back.

Being deprived of fair price in the open market, the growers are now rushing to the stockbrokers, who are also unable to buy jute for lack of working capital.

According to jute traders, most of the stockbrokers could not yet begin their business this year as BJMC failed to pay their outstanding bills of Tk six crore, knocking down the price of jute.

Describing a grim picture of jute cultivation, jute grower Abdur Ahim of Laxmiganj village in Sadar upazila said, "Those days are not far away when farmers would not go for jute farming."

He said it needs Tk 400 to produce a maund of jute, but its market price is much lower than that.

Agriculture officials said some 10,187 hectares of land were brought under jute farming in four upazilas of the district this year.

**386 bottles of phensidyl recovered**

From Our Correspondent

JHENIDAH, Sept 3: In two separate drives police recovered 386 bottles of contraband phensidyl syrup and arrested six people here recently.

Police, acting on tip-off, intercepted a microbus at Chultia intersection on Jhenidah-Jessore highway and recovered 210 bottles of phensidyl syrup, which is very popular among drug addicts, from the vehicle. Police also arrested two people identified as Selim and Ayub from the microbus.

In another drive, 176 bottles of the syrup were recovered from village Kumiraddah under Shalakupur upazila. Police also arrested four persons in this connection. Details could not be known.



Massive erosion by the mighty River Jamuna at Fulchhari in Gaibandha district has raised a great concern among the town dwellers. So, the Water Development Board (WDB) staffers have taken steps to dump brick bags at the erosion point with a view to checking it on time. —Star photo

**CJ suggests separate safe custody**

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, Sept 3: Chief Justice Latifur Rahman has called for setting up separate safe custody shelters for victims of rape and other crimes.

Human rights of victims are violated for using prisons as safe custody, the chief justice observed while addressing a seminar titled 'Human Rights and the Role of Lawyers' here on Thursday evening.

In fact there is no legal base for using jails as safe custody, although subordinate courts are following the tradition in absence of separate place since 1967, Rahman said.

Jointly organised by Bangladesh Bar Council and Sylhet District Bar Association, the seminar was attended by Registrar of High Court Marji-ul-Haque as special guest.

Presided over by District Bar Association President Advocate Fakhruddin Ahmed, it was also addressed, among others, by Vice

Chairman of Bar Council Barrister M Amir ul Islam, member of Bar Council Tobarak Hossain, member of Bar Council Syed Ahmed, Divisional Election Tribunal Judge Golam Mortuja, and Barrister Abdus Salam Tahukder. District Bar General Secretary Golam Rabbani Chowdhury moderated the function.

The chief justice also said quick disposal of cases is part of human rights. "The number of under trial prisoners in the jails and police custody is unfortunately very high in our country, he added.

The chief justice said basic human rights were violated several occasions due to martial laws.

For ensuring the basic human rights some laws should be amended, he said. He also said there is no law to ensure human rights in the country. "However, the process to enact such laws is on".



Chief Justice Latifur Rahman speaking as the chief guest at a seminar titled 'Human Rights and Role of Lawyers' organised jointly by Bangladesh Bar Council and Sylhet District Bar Association on Thursday. —Star photo

**Increased suffering from TB, goiter, filaria**

RANGPUR, Sept 3: Despite government's commitment to provide health services to all, about 15 lakh people of greater Rangpur and Dinajpur districts are suffering from fatal tuberculosis (TB), goiter, filaria and leprosy diseases, reports UNB.

According to a survey, conducted by an NGO, the number of TB patients is increasing day by day in the region owing to malnutrition and environment pollution.

At least 60,000 people have been suffering from TB in Nilphamari, Thakurgaon and Panchagarh districts. Of them, about 95 per cent patients are from low income group families.

Goiter is the another fatal disease in the region, which attacked 13 lakh people in the districts of Rangpur, Kurigram, Nilphamari, Lalmonirhat, Gaibandha, Dinajpur, Thakurgaon and Panchagarh.

Of the total about 2.80 lakh patients are detected in Dohar and Jaldhaka upazilas of Nilphamari district and two lakh in Kurigram district alone.

Most of the patients are women who are suffering from iodine deficiency. Pregnant women are the worst victims of the disease.

Filaria is now on increase alarmingly in different parts of greater Rangpur and Dinajpur regions.

Womenfolk are the main victims of the disease, which snatches away the moving capacity of one.

Leprosy is one of the major diseases in the region. About 55,000 people here have been suffering from the disease.

Due to lack of proper and timely treatment, most of the patients become handicapped, forcing them to beg for their livelihood.



**BCIC International Tender Notice**

বিসিআইসি'র পণ্য শিল্পায়নে জাতীয় অগ্রগতির প্রতীক

Sr. General Manager (Purchase), BCIC, BCIC Bhaban (12<sup>th</sup> Floor), 30-31, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka invites sealed quotations against Tender Enquiry No. PUR-3. 1608/2000-2001 dated 27-08-2000 for (a) 17.00 M3 Primary Reforming Catalyst, (b) 67.00 M3 Low Temperature Co-shift Conversion Catalyst (LTS), (c) 14.00 M3 Methanation Catalyst and (d) 0.66 M3 (8-12mm size) and 0.66 M3 (16-23 mm size) Ammonia Synthesis Catalyst on C&F(C) Chittagong Liner term basis under Cash Foreign Exchange. Offer shall be received up to 11.00 AM on 10-10-2000 and be opened immediately thereafter. Tender documents with detailed terms and conditions will be available on payment of Tk. 750.00 per set (non-refundable) from (i) Controller of Accounts, BCIC, BCIC Bhaban (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor), Dhaka and (ii) Sr. General Manager, BCIC Branch Office, 6, Agrabad C/A., Chittagong. Earnest money is 1% (one per cent) of the total quoted C&F(C) value. No tender documents shall be sold on the date of opening and no late offer shall be accepted. The buyer reserves the right to accept or to reject any or all the bids without assigning any reason thereof.

BCIC 763-28/8/2000 K H Rashid  
DFP-21031-29/8 General Manager (Purchase)  
G-1545 for Sr. General Manager (Purchase)

**Government of Bangladesh**

Office of the Executive Engineer (RHD)  
Dhaka Road Divn., Banani, Dhaka

**RHD Notice Inviting Sealed Tender in BD Form No. 2911**

1. Tender notice no : 41/RDD of 2000-2001.
2. Name of work : Making & placing of Guide Post at 1st km to 8th km of Tongi-Ashulia-EPZ Road under Road Division, Dhaka during the year 2000-2001.
3. Estimated cost : Tk. 99,360/-.
4. Earnest money : Tk. 1,987/- in BD/TC/NDS certificate in favour of "Executive Engineer (RHD), Road Divn., Dhaka" from any scheduled bank.
5. Time allowed : 20 (twenty) days from the date of issue of work order.
6. Eligibility of contractor : 'A' to 'E' class enlisted contractor of RHD.
7. Name of offices availability of tender documents : Executive Engineer (RHD), Road Division, Dhaka/Manikganj/Munshiganj/Narsingdi/Narayanganj/Gazipur/Planning & Design Divn., Dhaka Zone, Sarak Bhaban, Dhaka/SDE (RHD), Road Sub-Divn., VIII/Kallyanpur, Dhaka.
8. Name of offices to receive the tender bids : Superintendent Engineer (RHD), Dhaka Road Circle, Dhaka/Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation Circle, Sarak Bhaban, Dhaka/Executive Engineer (RHD), Road Division, Dhaka/SDE, RHD, Road Sub-Divn., VIII/Kallyanpur, Dhaka.
9. Last date of selling of tender documents : Up to office hours on 12/9/2000.
10. Date of receiving tender documents : Up to 12-30 PM on 13/9/2000.
11. Date of opening of tender : At 12-45 PM on 14/9/2000.
12. Date of lottery (if required) : At 11-00 AM on 17/9/2000 in the office of the Executive Engineer (RHD), Road Divn., Dhaka.

N.B.: The tender will not be opened in the respective offices as such the receiving officers are requested to send the tender received by them in sealed condition to the office of the undersigned before the date of opening.

Md. Delwar Hossain Khan  
Executive Engineer (RHD)  
Dhaka Road Divn., Banani, Dhaka.  
DFP-21019-29/8  
G-1543

**Drug addicts on rise in B'baria**

From Our Correspondent

BRAHMANBARIA, Sept 3: Number of drug addicts in the district headquarters is rising alarmingly, causing concern among residents.

The addicts include unemployed youths, students, transport workers, rickshaw pullers and sweepers. Drugs like Indian phensidyl syrup, rectified spirits and home-made liquor are popular among addicts.

These drugs are easily available in the town. Residents said most of the addicts are engaged in anti-social activities such as theft, mugging and smuggling to meet the expenses of drugs.

Just after the sun set addicts gather in Old Court Building, Kachary Pokur Par, Tanbazer and Rail Station areas in the town where drugs are available.

Local people alleged the members of law enforcing agencies do not pay attention to the illegal trade. They even help the drug traders in exchange for money, the residents alleged.

Although police and BDR are conducting drives in various parts of the district to seize contraband drugs, the illegal trade of drugs cannot be stopped.

**News snaps**

**Workshop**

NATORE, Sept 3: A three-day workshop on Child Rights concluded at the local circuit house on Tuesday to discuss various realistic aspects of child rights, reports UNB.

District administration organised the workshop with the assistance of UNICEF, Women and Children Affairs Ministry and BRAC. Government officials, TNOs, NGO representatives, lawyers and journalists attended the workshop where three instructors from BRAC conducted the sessions. Deputy Commissioner Sheikh Altaf Ali attended the workshop as chief guest on the inaugural and concluding day.

**Views exchange meeting**

NATORE, Sept 3: In an effort to make the women more aware about their rights and status in the society, Mohila Parishad district unit organised a views exchange meeting here recently, reports UNB.

State Minister for Fisheries and Livestock Prof Abdul Quddus inaugurated the discussion on 'Political empowerment of women and women in the decision-making process' and 'approval and full implementation of CEDOW charter of the United Nations' on August 26. Two keynote papers were presented at the meeting. Speakers urged the government to raise the number of reserved seats for women in the parliament to 64 from existing 30 for more participation of women in decision-making process.

**Five roads completed**

MANIKGANJ, Sept 3: Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) has completed the development work of five roads under priority project here recently, reports BSS.

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**

Office of the Executive Engineer, DPHE, Noakhali Division

Project Management Unit (PMU), Noakhali

DPHE Office Building, Majdee Court, Noakhali

**Notice Inviting Tender**

The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a grant from the Government of Denmark towards the cost of the water supply, sanitation, drainage and solid waste disposal in Pourashava, Thana and growth centres. It is intended that part of the proceeds of this grant will be applied to eligible payments for the construction of raw water and treated water transmission mains in Noakhali Pourashava.

The Executive Engineer, DPHE, Noakhali Division, on behalf of the Project Manager, Project Management Unit (PMU), Noakhali, invites tenders in sealed covers in Bangladesh Form No. 2911 as per terms and conditions here under.

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from pre-qualified contractors (pre-qualified for transmission lines, Category-A) under the project are eligible to participate in the tender. Tenders will be sold, received and opened as per schedule below. Tender documents consisting of detailed specifications, bill of quantities can be obtained from the mentioned offices on payment of Tk. 1500.00 (non refundable) for each work.

Sl No	Description of works	Estimated cost (Taka)	Earnest money (Taka)	Tender will be sold and received at the offices of	Last date of selling	Pre-bid meeting date and place	Last date of receiving	Date & place of opening
1.	Construction of raw water transmission main DI from Ekashpur well field to IRP in Noakhali Pourashava	16,911,337.00	338,227.00	i. Project Director (Addl. C.E.), DPHE Bhaban, Kakrail, Dhaka ii. Chief Adviser, Danida Advisory Group, DPHE, Bhaban, Kakrail, Dhaka iii. Divisional Commissioner, Chittagong Division iv. Executive Engineer, DPHE, Noakhali Div. v. Chairman, Noakhali Pourashava	12.9.00 till 17.00 hours	14.9.00 at 1100 hrs at the office of the Project Manager at Noakhali	21.09.00 till 12:00 hours	26.09.00 at 12:00 hours at the office of Project Manager at Noakhali
2.	Construction of Raw Water Transmission Main uPVC from IRP to three OHT	6,664,447.00	133,289.00					

- Terms and conditions:**
1. Earnest money mentioned against the works should be furnished along with the tender in the form of Bank Draft, Pay Order (within the same town) or Bank Guarantee from any scheduled bank in favour of the Executive Engineer, DPHE, and Noakhali Division. The tenderness having fixed deposit with DPHE should submit an attested photo copy of the fixed deposit and the balance amount if any beyond the amount of fixed deposit should be furnished along with tender in the manner prescribed above.
  2. A pre-bid meeting will be held at the office of the Project Manager at Noakhali on September 14, 2000 at 1100 hrs. After the pre-bid meeting no further queries as well as queries over telephone will not be entertained. No formal invitation will be issued for the meeting.
  3. As per latest decision of the Government, VAT and Income Tax as admissible will be charged and recovered from the total billed amount and payable amount respectively.
  4. The tender notice will also form a part of the contract and will be binding upon the contractor.
  5. All tenderers should fulfil the above conditions; terms and conditions as laid down in Bangladesh form 2911 and must accompany with each tender. Terms and conditions of the tender notices are integral part of tender documents.
  6. The contractor will quote on percentage basis (as per, above or below the estimated cost).
  7. If more than one tenderer become lowest by quoting identical rates, selection of contractor will be made through open lottery.
  8. The tender will be outright rejected if quoted rate more than 5% (five per cent) below the estimated cost. The contractor must furnish rate analysis in detail showing material and labour component with detail break down if the quoted rate is more than 5% (five per cent) above the estimated cost. Failing which his/her tender will be treated as cancelled without showing any reason thereof.
  9. The DPHE-Danida Water Supply and Sanitation Components reserves the right to reject any or all the tender without assigning any reason thereof and is not bound to accept the lowest or any tender.
  10. Issue of work order may be delayed due to unforeseen reasons in that case tenderer's claim whatsoever will not be entertained.
  11. In case any error detected in the bill of quantities or other documents at any time, the decision of the Project Manager will be final.
  12. Tender notice along with all the addendum (if any), VAT registration certificate (attested photocopy) and money receipt showing the purchase of tender document in original shall have to be submitted along with the tender failing which the tender will be treated as non-responsive and will be rejected.
  13. Insertion of any additional clause in the tender will render it to summary rejection. There should not be any over writing in any place. Any wrong entry shall be penned through and re-written clearly & initialed. Corrections by correcting fluid shall not be accepted.
  14. All tenderness should fulfil the above terms and conditions and also the conditions laid down in Bangladesh form No. 2911 and all the terms and conditions of the tender notice shall form integral part of tender documents.
  15. No change in accepted tender cost shall be entertained for increase or decrease of material and labour cost, taxes, duties, freight, etc. even if made effective through Government legislation. The rates will remain unchanged throughout the contract execution period.
  16. No offer, payment, consideration, or benefit of any kind, which constitutes illegal or corrupt practices, shall be made, either directly or indirectly, as an inducement or reward in relation to:
    - a. the tendering
    - b. the award of the contracts, or
    - c. the execution of the contract.
 Any such practice will be grounded for immediate cancellation of the contract and for such additional actions, civil and/or criminal, as may be appropriate. At the discretion of the Royal Danish Embassy in Dhaka a further consequence of any such practices can be the exclusion from any local tendering for Danida-funded projects in Bangladesh either indefinitely or for a specified period of time.
  17. Insertion of any addl. clause in the tender will render it to summary rejection. There should not be any over writing in any place. If there be any wrong it is to be pen through hand re-writing clearly & the contractor will give his signature with date near. Use of any correcting fluid/white fluid shall not be accepted.
  18. No consideration will be made by the department in respect of rates, if any increase of rate of materials, taxes, royalty, duty, levy, freight etc. are made after acceptance of tenders.
  19. The tenderers should quote rate accordingly considering the increase in cost of materials, VAT & all sorts of taxes as applicable, labours etc. for the probable period of completion of the work for which this department will entertain no extra claim in future.

Executive Engineer, DPHE  
Noakhali Division  
Noakhali  
DFP-21007-29/8  
G-1547