

## National

# Chilli, sugar prices up in Faridpur

From Abdul Matin Fakir

FARIDPUR, Oct 3: Acute crisis of green chillies has been prevailing in all the markets here for the last week.

The incessant rains with occasional let-up during the last few weeks have badly damaged the chilli plants resulting in unexpected scarcity of green chillies. Consequently the price of green chillies has jumped up abnormally.

A week ago, a kilogram (KG) of green chillies was being sold between Taka six and seven, but for the last three days green chillies are being sold at Taka 30 to 35 a kg.

When contacted, some farmers opined that there is hardly any possibility of coming down of the soared prices before the arrival of newly harvested green chillies in the markets.

The price of sugar has also shown an upward trend during the last couple of days. The traders have kept this upward trend of sugar prices very tactfully to avert the people's dissatisfaction. One kg of sugar was sold at Taka 32 in the local markets on September 17, but it was sold at Taka 33 a kg on the next day and on September 22 sugar was found to be sold at Taka 36 to 38 a kg.

The authorities concerned should take necessary steps to keep the sugar price stable at Tk 32 a kg in the markets.



Tangail is not a children-friendly town. At least this photo testifies to this. Picture shows the lone children park in the district town has turned into a grazing ground of cattle due to lack of maintenance. As a result the children are being deprived of their basic right to play. This park was built in 1987 at the personal initiative of former minister Mahmudul Hasan, but no government or non-governmental organisation came forward to take care of the children's park. A correspondent from Tangail has taken this shot recently.

## Milk production down in Cox's Bazar dist

From Abdul Monayem Khan

COX'S BAZAR, Oct 3: Despite a bright prospect of abundant milk production in the south coastal region, a declining trend of milk production is visible now-a-days.

According to a survey conducted by a social welfare organisation, the number of milk cows has been gradually decreasing in seven upazilas due to massive outbreak of cattle diseases in the past.

Inadequate supply of fish and its high price have also led to rise in slaughtering of milk cows in these upazilas.

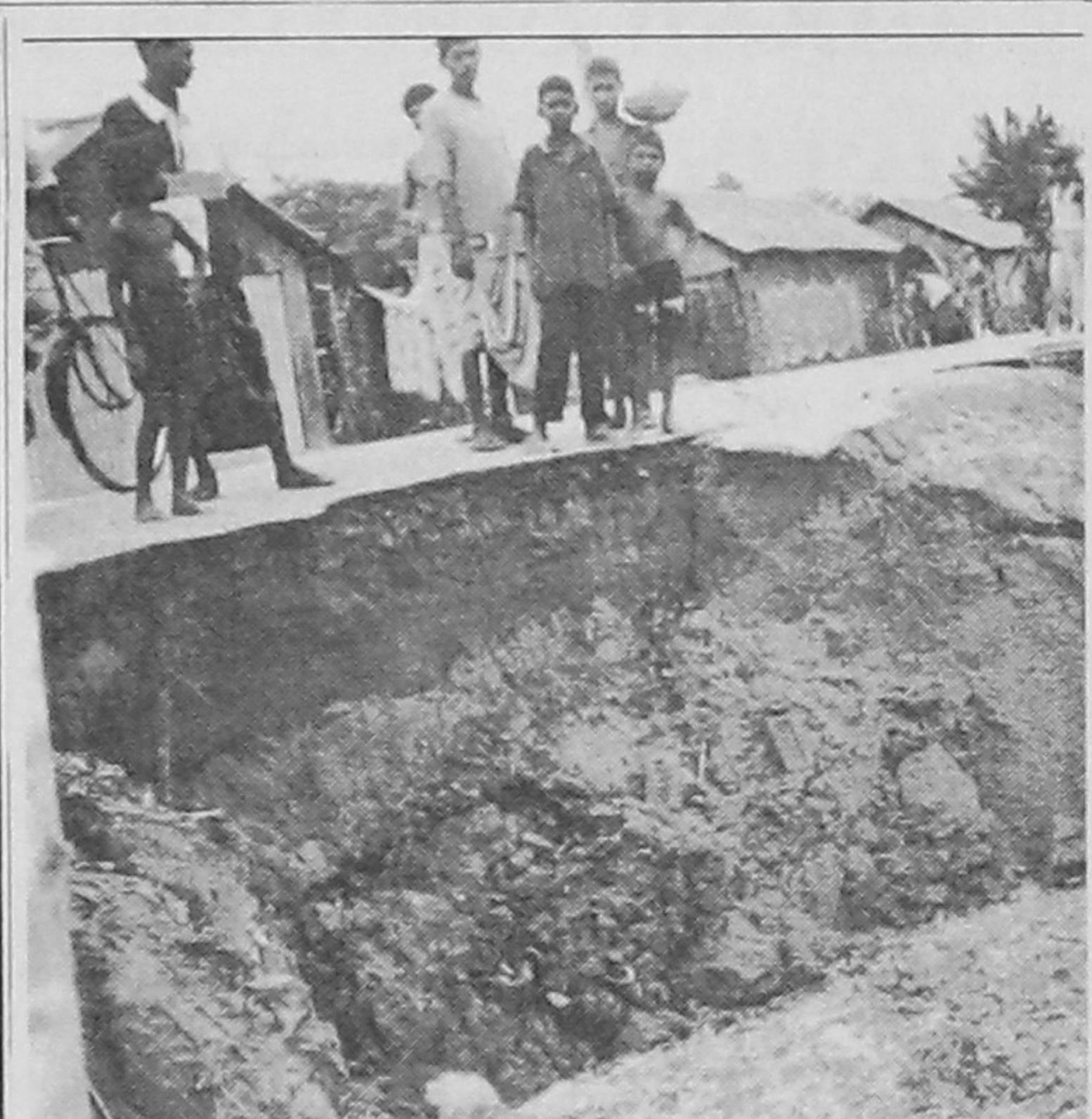
The upazilas are Chokoria, Ramu, Kutubdia, Mohestkali, Cox's Bazar Sadar, Ukhla and Teknaf.

In the shoal areas of the district, acute shortage of fodder largely affected the normal milk production.

**Child labour up**

CHAPAINAWABGANJ, Oct 3: Despite concern by human rights organisations, the number of child labourers in the district continues to rise at an alarming rate, reports UNB.

According to a survey, over 5,500 school-going children of the district are doing odd jobs to support their poor parents.



Rain damaged newly constructed busy road of Sirajganj town. Incessant rains for the last few days have been attributed to such condition of the road which runs from the Bazaar Station to the local police station. --Star photo by Akhteruzzaman

Shoal lands which were used as grazing field for milk cows and now become fields for crop production throughout the year.

As a result, sufficient grass could not be grown as it had been before. Folder crisis has worsened here due to prolonged drought this year and last year which lead to the price-hike of fodder like grass, wheat, paddy dust and oil-cake.

Besides, with the population boom and introduction of mechanised system of farming, grazing fields have become limited.

Now cattle cannot graze normally as they did in the past without any obstruction.

It is to be mentioned here that, due to scarcity of milk, a large number of Ghosh community have already given up their ancestral profession.

When contacted, Shaymol Ghosh of Ramu informed this correspondent that, milk production has abnormally fallen following the shortage of milk cows which is caused by severe drought and scarcity of fodder.

Besides, for lack of marketing facilities, the dairy farm owners are compelled to sell huge quantity of milk to the tea shops and houses at much cheaper rates.

As a result, they cannot procure the required quantity of milk

## A boost for pisciculture

From Kamran Reza Chowdhury

RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY, Oct 3: Zoology Department of the university has successfully produced veda fish, an endangered species of indigenous fish in the country.

The department cultivated the sweet water fish, Nandas Nandas, in ponds on the campus, giving a boost for the production of the popular fish.

Indiscriminate use of pesticides in croplands is polluting water in ponds, canals, beels and rivers, causing harm to fish. Like veda many other sweet water indigenous fishes are endangered.

Dr Altaf Hossain, professor of Zoology Department of the uni-



Veda fish produced in the aqua culture ponds of RU Zoology Department. --Star photo

versity, and his colleague in the department Dr Selina Parveen produced veda, Bangla for stupid.

The fish is called veda because of its serene and peaceful nature. The researchers produced the

fish in controlled environment.

The fish was once easily available in northern districts. Same is the case with other districts including Dhaka, Faridpur, Gopalganj and Madripur. Price of the delicious sweet water fish varies between Tk 80 and Tk 120 per kg in markets.

The fish is usually 18cm in height. The yellow striped black fish is also available in paddy and jute fields in rainy season. In the winter, it takes shelter in the rotten weeds and water hyacinth. But its most loved place is muddy surfaces of water bodies.

The fish is also called as noina, bokar, balish, boba, merli, nondali and nodori in several parts in the country.

## Arnab murder case: No headway so far

From Abu Ahmed

SATKHIRA, Oct 3: Police have failed to make any tangible progress in sensational Arnab Das murder case, although three and a half months have already elapsed.

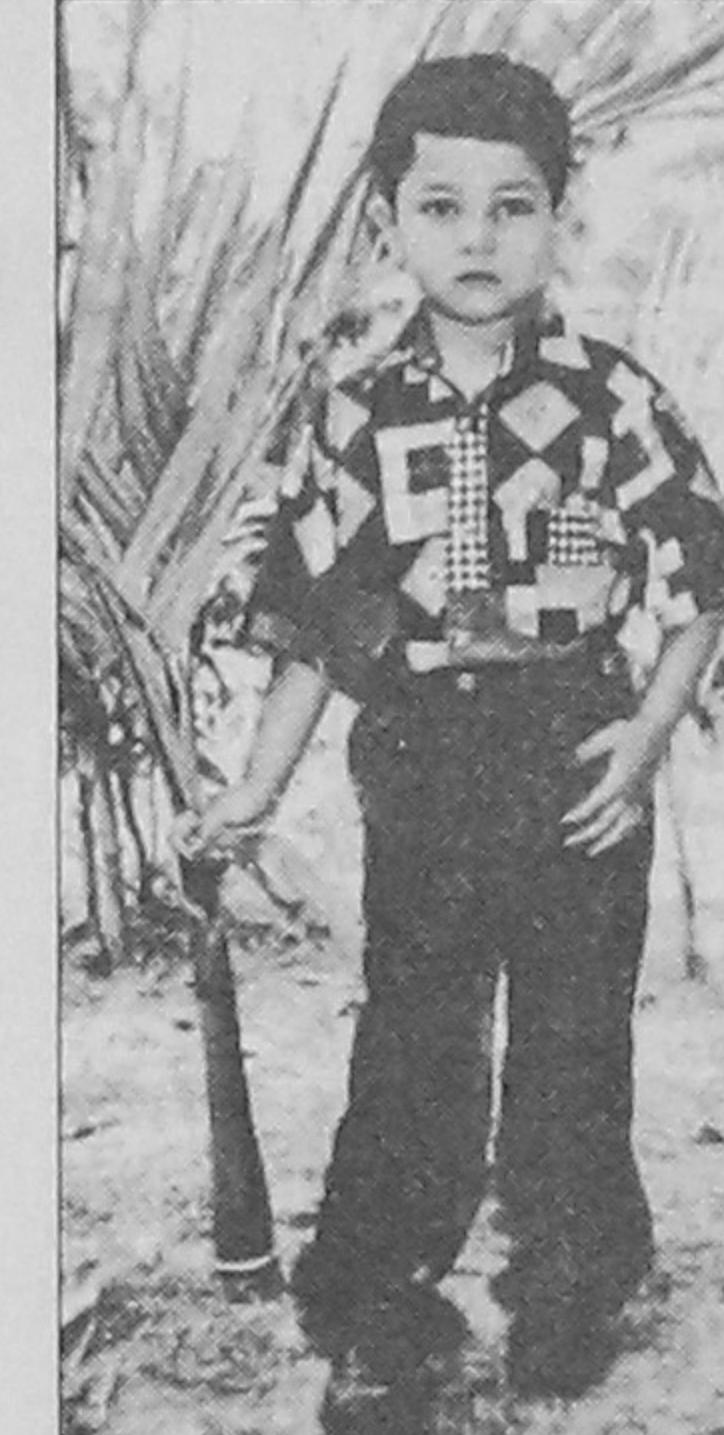
Police were yet to get adequate information to probe the killing and arrest suspects. Locals allege police are not sincere to arrest the culprits.

Decomposed body of Arnab Das, 8, the only son of Bimal Krishna Das of village Saitahi in Kaliganj, was found in a ditch in the village on June 21.

Mukul Gazi, son of Sayeed Gazi of the same village, took the boy, a student of class III, to his residence to give him a parrot in the early morning of June 18 and since then he was missing, family sources said. After three days the body, which bore several marks, was recovered.

Local people caught Mukul Gazi accusing him of the murder and handed him over to police. Police arrested him under Section 54 and sent him to respective magistrate court. On July 2, Mukul Gazi gave a confessional statement to the court. In the statement, he said in exchange for Taka 5,000 he picked up Arnab Das and handed him over to Mannan, Salam and Tariqul. They later the boy, he added.

Many attribute the killing to political rivalry. One of the boy Nirmal Das contested twice in chairman election in Champal union parishad. Bimal Das, a businessman, is an active supporter of his elder brother Nirmal. Political rivals of Nirmal and Bimal killed the innocent boy, requesting anonymity said an elderly man in the village.



Arnab, 8, was killed three and a half months ago. But police have failed to make any headway in the sensational case. Decomposed body of the boy was found in a ditch on June 21. --Star photo

Local people and Arnab's father allege after Arnab was missing a GD was filed with Kaliganj police station, but nothing was done in this regard.

Bimal Das urged the authorities concerned to take immediate steps to arrest the killers of his innocent son.

Father, son feared drowned in Surma boat tragedy

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, Oct 3: Father and son are feared drowned in a boat capsized in the River Surma near the upazila headquarters of Kanaighat on Saturday night.

Even after vigorous search throughout the whole day on Sunday, local people failed to trace out any of the bodies.

A country boat with about 30 people on board started set sailing from the Kanaighat bazaar at about 8:30 pm Saturday. After a few minutes it started raining and stormy weather hit the boat which dashed another big boat. The big boat was carrying stones near the police station building. The boat sank soon and most of the passengers managed to swim ashore, but a six-year-old boy Tanveer Ahmed failed.

It is widely apprehended that his father Nazmul Islam, 35, tried to save his son's life, but met the same fate also. The whole day search for the bodies in the lower stream upto about one mile area yielded no result.

**Man crushed under wheels of bus**

From Our Correspondent MYMENSINGH, Oct 3: A man was crushed under the wheels of a bus at Shambhuganj Old Bus Stand in Sadar upazila in the district on Saturday.

According to locals, the victim was crushed under the wheels as he was taking rest just near the wheels of the bus. The driver did not know that a man was taking rest near the wheels.

Identity of the middle-aged man could not be known. Police recovered the body and sent to hospital for autopsy.

## News snaps

### Because of negligence of duty

HABIGANJ, Oct 3: A medical officer and a senior nurse of Sadar Hospital have been sued for their negligence of duty, reports UNB.

Ayub Ali of the municipality area Thursday filed the case with the court of a first class magistrate against MO Poresh, Chandra Devnath and senior staff nurse Farida Akther for declaring their newborn baby dead although it was alive. According to the case, wife of the plaintiff gave birth to a son at 5.50 am on September 22 in the hospital but the accused declared the baby dead and kept it in its bathroom packing it with polythene. By the time Ayub, the aggrieved father, made arrangement for the burial of his son and went to the hospital to receive the body from the authorities. But to his surprise, Ayub found the baby crying and even urinated in the packet when he had picked it up. Although the baby was admitted to the hospital, he died at 1.35pm on the day.

### Alleged murderer arrested

MUNSHIGANJ, Oct 3: Police arrested a notorious criminal wanted in a number of cases from the main road in the town on Tuesday, reports UNB.

The arrested, Kana Babul, member of inter-district robber gang, was wanted by police in connection with murder, robbery and other criminal cases. Acting on a tip, police laid an ambush on the road and arrested him while passing the road in the morning. Kana Babul who hailed from Rampal village of Sadar upazila has been engaged in criminal activities since long. A number of cases were filed against him in Dhaka, Narshingdi and other districts. He was wanted in four cases in Munshiganj district, police said.

### Work stoppage

LAMONIRHAT, Oct 3: All-Party Railway Workers went for work stoppage for three and half hours in the divisional railway office here on Monday to protest Awami League is siding with the illegal occupants of railway lands, reports UNB.

The workers who formed an All-Party Action Committee staged demonstration and held rally decrying the local leaders of the ruling party. Earlier, the railway authorities had asked the illegal occupants of its several thousand houses and lands to vacate by September 30. Awami League organised itself against eviction from railway houses and lands. The district AL leaders at a public meeting on Saturday took a stand in favour of illegal occupants and hurled abuses at the railway authorities for taking the move for eviction. The railway workers rally was addressed among others, by presidents of Rail Sramik League Zahirul Haq Patwari, Jatiya Sramik Party's Afzal Hossain, Sramik Union's Kazi Abu Zafar and Jatiyatobadi Sramik Dal's Moazzem Hossain Dulu.

### Elected from jail

COMILLA, Oct 3: Aksirul Bashar Sohag has been elected commissioner of Ward No one contesting in the Comilla municipality election from jail, reports UNB.

Sohag was sent to jail a few months back in a case filed under Public Security Act. He submitted his nomination paper from jail and his relatives campaigned for him. He got 513 votes while his nearest rival secured 281 votes. The election was held on September 26. Nasrin Sultana Runa who contested for women reserved seat got the highest 3,443 votes among other commissioners.



Prime Bank Limited has taken up a relief distribution programme for the flood victims of Jessor, Jhenidah, Magura, Satkhira, Rajshahi and Chapal Nawabganj districts. Photo shows K M Khaled, chairman and Kazi Abdul Mazid, managing director of the bank handing over a cheque for Taka 7.50 lakh to senior vice-president of the bank Abdus Samad who is the coordinator of the bank's relief team for carrying out the relief operation. Director M A Khaleque, representative director M A Wahab, deputy managing director Naser Bukhtear Ahmed and senior executive vice-president Shahjahan Bhuyan are also seen in the picture.

## Invitation for Tender

Tender Enquiry No-Pur-128/2000/Lot-1 &amp; Lot-2

Dt. 03.8.2000

**Sub:** Extension of Time for Bid Submission for Supply of "Electronic Energy Meter & Metering Accessories for Consumer Metering for System Loss Reduction Pilot Scheme, BPDB & Loss Reduction Pilot Project, DESA against Tender Enquiry No-Pur-128/2000/Lot-1 & Lot-2 Dt. 03.8.2000

The date of submission of supply of Electronic Energy Meter & Metering Accessories for Consumer Metering for System Loss Reduction Pilot Scheme, BPDB & Loss Reduction Pilot Project, DESA has been re-fixed on 15.10.2000 instead of 05.10.2000. The tender will be received up to 11-00 AM and opened at 11-15 AM on the same day.

All other terms & conditions will remain unchanged.

Biddu/Jana-639(3)/2000-2001

GD-921

Director of Purchase  
BPDB, Dhaka.

## BCIC Tender Notice

বিসআইসি'র মণ্ড শিল্পনে জাতীয় অগ্রগতির জন্ম

Sealed tenders are invited by the Sr. General Manager (Construction), Construction Division, BCIC, Dhaka, from the A-3 and above category enlisted contractor of BCIC, Dhaka for supplying and fitting, fixing of sanitary and carpentry work at different floors of BCIC Bhaban, 30-31, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka at an estimated cost of Tk 3,38,510.75 (Three lac thirty eight thousands five hundred ten and seventy five paisa) only.

The tender documents may be purchased on production of valid enlistment certificate renewed up to 1999-2000 from the Accounts Division, BCIC, 30-31, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka up to 10.10.2000 on cash payment of Tk 500/- (Tk five hundred) only (Non-refundable) per set. Tenders will be received up to 11:00 AM on 11.10.2000 at BCIC, Construction Division, 30-31, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka and will be opened immediately after closing.

BCIC reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Engr. MSA Fakir  
BCIC 866-27/9/2000  
DFP-23692-1/10  
G-1731

Sr. General Manager (Const.)  
Construction Division  
BCIC, Dhaka

## Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer

Public Works E/M Division-6

2nd 12-storied Government Building, Segunbagicha, Dhaka.

## Tender Invitation Notice No-24 (2000-2001)

Memo No 13-10/545

Dated: 24.9.2000/9.6.1407

Tenders in Bangladesh Form No-2911 in sealed envelopes are invited from special first class of Public Works Department and class I/II contractors enlisted for E/M work for the undermentioned work. Tenders will be received on 17.10.2000 till 12:00 Noon during office hours in the tender box kept at the office of Public Works E/M Division-4/5/6 and Public Works Eden Bhaban Division, Dhaka and tenders will be opened the same day at 12:30 pm in presence of tenders or their nominated representatives (if anyone remains present). Tender schedule, form and terms and conditions etc can be purchased from the offices of Public Works E/M Division-4/5/6 and Public Works Eden Bhaban Division, Dhaka during office hours on payment of usual fees for Taka 425/- (for hundred twenty-five) (non-refundable) latest till 16.10.2000. Security money at the rate of 2% (two per cent) of the estimated cost in the form of Bank Draft/Pay-Order from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh in favour of Executive Engineer, Public Works E/M Division-6 must be submitted alongwith each tender. This office authority reserves the right to accept any tender or reject all tenders without assigning any reason. Contractor himself or his representative bearing an authorisation letter can purchase tender by producing all necessary papers including registration book. Participants in tender must submit the certificate regarding TIN and original receipt for purchasing tender documents.

Serial No	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earliest money	Time allowed