

National

PM likely to inaugurate work on Pakshey Bridge next month

PABNA, Nov 24: Dispelling all speculations, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is expected to formally inaugurate the construction work on Pakshey Bridge sometime next month, reports UNB.

Preliminary work on the country's second longest bridge has already begun, raising hope that economic activities will gain momentum with the setting up of a north-south transport grid.

Although the survey on the bridge started in 1995, the present government took up the mega project soon after assuming power.

The 1.8-km long and 18.10-meter wide four-lane bridge is being constructed over the River Padma at Pakshey in-between Pabna and Kustia districts and 300 meters down the Hardinge Bridge.

The government will provide Tk 71.32 crore for implementing the Tk 567.68 crore project while Tk 496.36 crore will come from Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC). Roads and Highways Department is implementing the project.

It will be a 17-span bridge with concrete pile foundation and a 10-km approach road at the Pabna end while a 6-km one at the Kustia end.

For construction of the approach roads, the bridge authorities have already acquired 103 hectares of land permanently and 47 hectares temporarily on both sides of the bridge in addition to its main site.

Meanwhile, tenders have been floated for the approach roads while earth-filling work is progressing along the eastern side of the river.

Officials said Major Bridge Engineering Bureau (MBEB), a Chinese construction firm, has got the work order for constructing the bridge.

An agreement to this effect was signed between the Bangladesh government and the Chinese construction firm on August 17 at Sarak Bhaban in Dhaka.

R and H Chief Engineer MA Wadud signed the agreement on behalf of the Bangladesh Government while Chief of Overseas Economic Undertaking Section of China Zao Kiping signed on behalf of MBEB.

American designer Mot Macdonald prepared the design of the bridge. Person Brinkarfev Associate of the United States will oversee construction work of the bridge.

The project is scheduled to be completed by September 2003.

10-yr-old boy languishing in prison

From Our Correspondent

FARIDPUR, Nov 24: A ten-year old orphan boy has been rotting in Faridpur District Prison for the last four months knowing nothing about his fault.

The victim, Sudhir Bairagee along with some of his acquaintances came from Bagerhat to Sreangan, a holy place of the Hindus in the town from where he was arrested by the police for reasons best known to them and sent to Faridpur prison.

Sudhir has been staying in the prison since his arrest with none to take any initiative to get him free from the prison.

Human Rights and other philanthropic organisations should take positive move to set him free.

Export-import thru' Benapole suspended

JESSORE, Nov 24: As Indian trucks began wildcat strike on Wednesday, export and import of goods through Benapole-Haridaspur check post was suspended, reports UNB.

The strike began in the morning after BSF men beat up a driver at Haridaspur in India.

Sources said the Indian border guards assaulted the Indian truck driver, Govinda, at about 6:30 am while a number of trucks were being loaded with jute at noman's land.

Later, the Indian truck drivers put up barricade at the border point, disrupting movement of trucks through the check post.

About 100 trucks freighted with jute remained stranded at Benapole check post while 200 at Haridaspur in India following the incident.

A meeting between Indian Truck Drivers Association and the local administration was continuing to resolve the matter.

20 hurt as AL factions clash in Shariatpur

SHARIATPUR, Nov 24: A fierce gunfight between two factions of local Awami League at village Sencherchar in Jajira upazila left 20 people injured, five with bullets, on Wednesday reports UNB.

Witnesses said the gun battle took place in the morning when the armed supporters of Siraj Sikder attacked the house of Monir Hossain Fakir.

Of the injured, Shahjahan, 28, Aslam, 26, and Ahsan Habib were admitted to the Jajira Upazila Health Complex in critical condition.

Locals said the clash occurred over establishing supremacy in the area.

Police said Monir Hossain Fakir filed a case. Meanwhile, ASP of the district visited the spot.



Flood has damaged badly Arpara-Dhoneswargati Road in Magura district causing immense sufferings to the passengers of buses which ply along the route. The road needs to be repaired on emergency basis —Star photo

Sugarcane crushing begins

From Our Correspondent

FARIDPUR, Nov 24: Sugarcane crushing in Faridpur Sugar Mills here began last week.

Industries Minister Tofail Ahmed inaugurated this year's crushing season in the premises of the factory at Madhukhali.

On the occasion, the minister told the gathering that none of the 15 nationalised sugar mills will be denationalised amid huge clapping.

The minister, however, said workers and employees should work hard to make the factories profitable.

Faridpur Sugar Mills fixed the target to produce 12,293 metric tons of sugar this season by crushing 1.99 lakh metric tons of sugarcane in 129 working days.

President over by Mofiz Ahmed, chairman of Bangladesh Sugar and Food Industry Corporation, the meeting was addressed, among others, by Kazi Sirajul Islam MP, Abdur Rahman, former BCL leader and Syed Kabirul Alam, president of district unit of Krishak League.

Child crushed under wheels

From Our Correspondent

MAGURA, Nov 24: A four-year-old child was crushed under the wheels of a speeding bus here recently.

Eyewitnesses said Asadullah, son of Rahmat Sheikh of village Kosundi under Sadar upazila, met the tragic end of his life when the Dhaka-bound bus hit him from behind.

Rally to make farmers aware of adverse impact of pesticides

From Our Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Nov 24: A farmers' rally was held at remote village Baro Veola under Chakoria upazila in Cox's Bazar district on Monday to make the peasants aware of adverse impact of indiscriminate use of pesticides on croplands.

The rally was held as part of a campaign, 'Peoples' Caravan-2000', Asia and the Pacific based organisation Pesticide Action Network (PAN AP) in collaboration with several farmers' organisations of some countries, including Bangladesh, India, Malaysia and Indonesia, has launched the programme aiming at creating awareness against the adverse impact of chemical insecticides and pesticides on lands and humankind. The campaign also advocates alternative method of pest management, besides protecting bio-diversity.

Slogan of the campaign, which also discourages farmers to use genetically modified seeds, is 'make the land and food poison-free'.

Members of 'Peoples' Caravan-2000', who started from India on November 13, reached Bangladesh on November 18 to hold rallies in different remote villages of Cox's Bazar, Tangail and Pabna.

The rally was addressed, among others, by Percy Schmeisera, a Canadian farmer, Jennifer Morino of PAN AP, Shaheed Hossain and Mahfuza.

Rahman of a Bangladeshi organisation, Officer of upazila administration Syed Md Belal Haider and Upazila Agricultural Officer Zainal Hossain, besides some local farmers.

4,000 copies of Inqilab burnt

BARISAL, Nov 24: More than 4,000 copies of the daily Inqilab were burnt at Shikarpur ferry ghat on Dhaka-Barisal highway on Wednesday, reports UNB.

Sources said activists of Awami League and its front organisations stopped a microbus carrying the newspapers and set fire on the copies of the Inqilab preventing the daily from reaching its subscribers of the southern region.

They also burnt about 400 copies of the weekly 'Purnima' published from the Inqilab House.

Robber gets life term

From Our Correspondent

GOPALGANJ, Nov 24: A court here recently sentenced a man to life term in a robbery case.

The convict was identified as Din Islam of village Char Kushali under Terokhada upazila in Khulna district.

Villagers caught Din Islam during robbery at village Manikdah under Gopalganj Sadar upazila on November 21, 1998.

JP for new dimension in politics: Manju

By Staff Correspondent

Jatiya Party (M-M) Secretary General and Communications Minister Anwar Hossain Manju has said it is possible to reduce corruption in the country if the persons involved in corruption at the higher level is tried.

Manju and that JP wants to introduce and bring a new dimension in the politics for ensuring welfare of the people. He said people have started thinking about the new approach of the party and in the meantime JP has strengthened its organisational activities in each upazila.

"Standard of life of common people might improve if the corruption is eliminated from the society," he said while addressing a public meeting at Narail District Auditorium on Tuesday.

The Narail district unit of JP organised the meeting, which was presided over by district Convenor Ishtiaq Hossain Manjur, JP Presidium Member

Sheikh Shahidul Islam, Joint Secretary General Sadeq Siddique, Shamsul Huda, Amena Bari, General Secretary of Jatiya Juba Sanghati Mir Harun-ur-Rashid, Jahangir Hossain and BM Fashiar Rahman.

Speaking at the gathering, Manju said there is acute crisis and extreme poverty everywhere in the country. There is also demand for construction of culverts and bridges all over the country, he added.

He said the country was liberated twice in last 50 years but luck of the commonman is yet to improve although there is resources in Bangladesh, said a press release here.

The Communications Minister hoped that the JP would do better in the next parliamentary polls and called upon all to rally round under the banner of the party to ensure development of the country and the nation.

Newborn stolen from RMCH rescued

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Nov 24: Finally the newborn baby boy, who was stolen from the labour ward of Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH) on November 13, was rescued on Monday night. The baby was returned to his mother.

Acting on a tip-off, police rescued the baby from New Market area in the city. Police also arrested Shefali, 30, and her husband Farhad in connection with the theft.

The mother, Shukaman of Silinda under Rajpara police station in the city, gave birth to the baby at obstetrics ward (ward No 22) of RMCH. As the mother's condition was critical, a woman, introducing herself as aunt of the baby, took the baby from the on duty nurse and fled the hospital.

A general diary was recorded with Rajpara police station in this connection.

According to police and RMCH sources, a rickshawpuller, Rezaul informed Dr Daemuddin, head of the probe committee formed by the RMCH authorities to investigate into the theft, that an elderly woman from a slum in Bhadra area had stolen the newborn baby.

Police later raided the slum and arrested the woman suspected in the theft. The women said that her daughter Shefali, who lives in New Market area, had stolen the baby.

Mother of two children, Shefali had told her neighbours that she had given birth to the baby.

Minister's car hits rickshaw: Two injured

NARSINGDI, Nov 24: A minister's car dashed a rickshaw in Raipura upazila here on Dhaka-Sylhet highway leaving two rickshaw passengers injured on Wednesday, reports UNB.

Finance Minister Shah AMS Kibria, who was on way to Sylhet, was unhurt after his car met with the accident at Morja bus stand at about 9 am.

Witnesses said eight more people were wounded as police resorted to baton charge to disperse a mob encircling the car. However, the minister's car left the scene safely.

Of the injured, two rickshaw passengers Salma Begum, 30, and Motaleb Khandaker, 60, and Avlad Hossain, 30, Shahjahan, 25, Nazrul Islam, 30, and Mister Hossain, 30, were admitted to Sadar Hospital.

News snaps

9 fishermen abducted by NASAKA

From Our Correspondent

COX'S BAZAR, Nov 24: Members of Myanmar border force COX'S BAZAR abducted nine Bangladeshi fishermen from Bangladesh territorial waters.

According to a delayed report, NASAKA men seized two fishing trawlers and abducted the fishermen when they were fishing in the Bay on November 19. Owners of the trawlers, Nur Ahmed and Md Amin, registered a GD with Teknaf police station in this connection.

Diarrhoea claims six lives

KISHOREGANJ, Nov 24: Diarrhoea that broke out in an epidemic form in Katadi upazila claimed six lives including three children and affected 25 people, reports UNB.

The deceased children were identified as Partha, 2, son of Didar Mia of village Barabari, Mobarak, 1, son of Emdad Mia of village Barabari, Babul, 5, son of Pintu Mia of Chharpura village. Besides a man died in Paspura and two others in Dhuldia village of the upazila. Official sources said the disease broke out in Chanpur and Shahasram Dhuldia unions of the upazila and a diarrhoea control room was opened in Chanpur union. But the local people demanded of the authorities to send medical teams to the affected areas.

Anniversary of death

From Our Correspondent

RANGPUR, Nov 24: The first anniversary of death of Asir Uddin Ahmed, social worker and retired co-operative inspector will be observed tomorrow (Saturday) befittingly.

On the occasion, a milad mahfil and doa mahfil followed by feeding of destitutes and orphans have been arranged after Johar prayers at his house at Road No 3, House No 228, Mulatole, Rangpur. Relatives, friends, colleagues, and well-wishers have been requested to attend the mahfils and pray for salvation of the deceased.



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Ministry of Local Government
Rural Development and Co-operatives (LGRD&C)
Local Government Division
URBAN PRIMARY HEALTH CARE PROJECT
Project Implementation Unit (PIU)
Room No 620, Nagar Bhaban, Dhaka
Tel: 880 2 9667791 Fax: 880 2 9667792
E-mail: uphpc@bangla.net

Notice Inviting Tender

- The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) towards the cost of Urban Primary Health Care Project and it is intended that a part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the contract (hereinafter referred to as the contract) for which this invitation for bid is issued.
- Project Director, Urban Primary Health Care Project on behalf of Local Government Division, Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development & Co-operatives (LGRD&C) will act as Employer.
- Project Director, Urban Primary Health Care Project now invites sealed bids from prequalified bidders of UPHC Project for the construction of the following works in Dhaka City Corporation, Khulna City Corporation and Rajshahi City Corporation comprising of but not limited to all kinds of civil, plumbing, sanitary, electrical and mechanical works, site development etc.

Package No	Schedule of work	Budget Provision	Earnest Money
D10	Construction of Urban Primary Health Care Centre for Dhaka City Corporation at - Ward No 24, Khilgaon. - Ward No 28, Basabo.	79.50 lakh taka	2.5% of quoted amount.
D11	Urban Primary Health Care Centre for Dhaka City Corporation at - Ward No 29, Mukdhapara. - Ward No 34, Shahjahanpur.	79 lakh taka	2.5% of quoted amount.
D12	Construction of Urban Primary Health Care Centre for Dhaka City Corporation at - Ward No 42, Mohammadpur. - Ward No 60, Shahidnagar.	71.5 lakh taka	2.5% of quoted amount.
K5	Construction of Urban Primary Health Care Centre for Khulna City Corporation at - Ward No 13, Chorerhat. - Ward No 24, Nirala.	70.5 lakh taka	2.5% of quoted amount.
K6	Construction of Urban Primary Health Care Centre for Khulna City Corporation at - Ward No 27, Near Mistrirapa Bazar. - Ward No 29, Gagan Babu Road.	70 lakh taka	2.5% of quoted amount.

- A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased during office hour upto December 07, 2000 by interested pre-qualified bidders on submission of written application to the Project Director, Urban Primary Health Care Project, Room No 620, Nagar Bhaban, Dhaka upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Tk 2000.00 (two thousand) only.
- All bids must be accompanied by an earnest money of 2.5% of the quoted amount for each package and submitted on or before 12:00 hrs on December 10, 2000 in sealed cover and be dropped in the tender box kept in the office of the Project Director, Urban Primary Health Care Project, Nagar Bhaban, Dhaka or Commissioner's Office, Dhaka or Deputy Commissioner's Office, Dhaka. Bid will be opened immediately thereafter in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
- The work is to be completed within 6 (six) months time and the maintenance period for the project is 12 (twelve) months.
- Drawing for the works may be seen at the office of the consultant, Engineers and Consultants Bangladesh Ltd., 17 Bakshi Bazar Road, Dhaka-1211 during office hours on all working days.
- The Project Director, UPHCP will be liable for any cost or expenses incurred by bidders in connection with preparation of tender.
- Location of Health Centre may be changed if desired by the authority.
- The authority reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Dr Md Nurul Islam

Project Director

UPHC, Room No 620

Nagar Bhaban, Dhaka

DCC/PRD/218/00-01
GD-1088

Ambitious Rabi cultivation programme

KISHOREGANJ, Nov 24: Rejuvenated by successive bumper productions, Agriculture Extension Department has taken up a massive programme to bring some 49,60 lakh hectares of land in country's 64 districts under Rabi crop cultivation this season with an output target of 1.6 crore mts, reports UNB.

Of the targeted output, 1.1 crore mts of Boro paddy are expected to be produced on 38 lakh hectares of land throughout the country.

Agriculture officials hope that 19 lakh mts of wheat will be produced on 8.25 lakh hectares of land while 1.14 lakh mts of maize on 35,000 hectares, 5 lakh mts of sweet potato on 50,000 hectares.

They said some 29.29 lakh mts of Rabi crops, including Ufshi variety 28.29 lakh mts and local varieties 99,680 mts, will be produced on 10,05 lakh hectares of land in seven districts of Dhaka and five districts of Mymensingh

agriculture zones.

In Mymensingh zone, over 17.96 lakh mts of grains are expected to be produced on 6.22 lakh hectares of land in Mymensingh, Jamalpur, Netrakona, Kishoreganj and Sherpur districts.

District-wise breakup of the production targets and lands in the zone: Mymensingh-land 1.82 lakh hectares, production 5.36 lakh mts; Jamalpur-land 97,000 hectares, production 2.84 lakh mts; Sherpur-land 64,000 hectares, production 1.89 lakh mts; Netrakona-land 1.35 lakh hectares, production 3.63 lakh mts and Kishoreganj-land 1.44 lakh hectares, production 4.23 lakh mts.

In Dhaka zone, the department has planned to bring some 3.83 lakh hectares of land in seven districts under Rabi cultivation fixing the production target at 11.33 lakh mts, including 11.15 lakh mts of Ufshi variety and 18,080

mts of other local varieties.

District-wise breakup: Dhaka-land 48,500 hectares, production 142,980 mts; Narayanganj-land 28,600 hectares, production 84,680 mts; Narsingdi-land 48,800 hectares, production 144,160 mts; Gazipur-land 53,200 hectares, production 156,800 mts; Munshiganj-land 40,200 hectares, production 57,000 mts; Manikganj-land 40,200 hectares, production 118,640 mts and Tangail-land 144,000 hectares and production 428,920 mts.

Meanwhile, all necessary measures have been taken by the concerned organisations to distribute hybrid Boro seeds, fertilisers, insecticides and other agri-inputs among farmers at fair prices while Bangladesh Krishi Bank and other banks are providing necessary farm loans.

"If the weather does a favour, we may see another bumper production," said a senior AED official.



Directorate General Defence Purchase

Ministry of Defence
New Airport Road, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215

Re-Tender Notice

1. Sealed tenders in Local currency are invited from bona-fide manufacturers/dealers/suppliers/indentors (enlisted firms in DGDP) for supply of following items for Bangladesh Navy:

Sl No	Name of items & Qty	Selling date	Opening date	Tender No	Tender value
1.	Jersey blue woolen with pocket (for officers, Mcpos, cpos pos) Qty-2,800 Nos	27-11-2000 to 04-12-2000	05-12-2000	6494	Tk 200/=

2. Tender schedule with detailed specifications/conditions will be available on payment as per I/T selling rate (not refundable) during office hours between 0800 hrs to 1300 hrs. The tender can be dropped latest by 1000 hrs and opened at 1005 hrs on the specified date of opening in the presence of tenderers (if any).

ISPR/Misc/2000/963
DFP-28402-22/11
G-2064

Lt Cdr BN
For Director General



Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority

141-143, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000

Extension of Time of Tender

For International Tender of the Expansion, Modernization and Beautification Project of Dhaka River Port Terminal at Sadarghat, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

The documents will now be available for sale up to 14th January 2001 instead of 3rd December 2000.

The tender will be received on or before 15th January 2001 instead of 4th December 2000.

All other terms and conditions will remain unchanged.

Abul Qasem

Deputy Chief Engineer

Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority

GD-1092

141-143, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.