

Fertiliser scarcity hits Rabi crops in Pabna

PABNA, Nov 25: Farmers have been facing problem in cultivation of Rabi crops due to acute scarcity of fertiliser, reports UNB.

The farmers of the region are not getting fertiliser to use in their croplands as none of the 97 dealers here could lift fertiliser from the buffer godown at Natore for last one month because of extortion.

The dealers alleged that they were compelled to abstain from lifting fertiliser, as they could not earn profit after giving tolls.

President of the District Fertiliser Association Idris Bishwas told the extortionists in connivance with the dealers at Natore prevented the dealers of Pabna from lifting fertiliser without paying tolls.

He alleged that the extortionists usually do not prevent the dealers to lift non-granular fertiliser due to its less demands in the market.

Meanwhile, the dealers sought permission of Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC) for lifting fertiliser directly from

the factory.

Cultivation of Rabi crops on vast tract of lands would be hampered if the BCIC doesn't allow the dealers to lift fertiliser from the factory, the dealers said.

Meanwhile, an ambitious scheme has been taken up to bring 1,44,500 hectares of land under Boro paddy farming in Kishoreganj district in the coming Rabi season with a production target of 4,23,700 metric tons.

Agriculture Extension Department sources said of the total, 1,37,500 hectares will be brought under high yielding variety while the rest under local variety.

Of the land, 3,700 hectares will be cultivated in Hossainpur, 4,900 hectares in Sadar, 7,250 hectares in Pakundia, 10,500 hectares in Kotiadi, 9,000 hectares in Karimganj, 9,800 hectares in Tarail, 25,900 hectares in Itna, 14,600 hectares in Mitamoin, 13,150 hectares in Nikli, 22,700 hectares in Ausagram, 12,600 hectares in Bazilpur, 5,300 hectares in Kullarchar and 5,100 hect-

ares in Bhairab upazilas.

AED also has set a target to prepare seed-beds of Boro on 7,346 hectares.

Meanwhile AED also has set up a target to produce 27,600 mts of wheat from 12,000 hectares of land in 13 upazilas.

Of the land, 1,100 hectares of land will be cultivated in Hossainpur, 3,200 hectares in Sadar, 2,000 hectares in Pakundia, 1,300 hectares in Kotiadi, 1,250 hectares in Karimganj, 500 hectares in Tarail, 300 hectares in Itna, 100 hectares in Mitamoin, 300 hectares in Nikli, 350 hectares in Ausagram, 1,000 hectares in Bazilpur, 400 hectares in Kullarchar and 200 hectares in Bhairab upazilas.

BADC has started selling quality seeds through its dealers and different banks including Bangladesh Krishi Bank. The aforesaid banks are disbursing loans among the farmers for the successful implementation of the schemes.

Patients deprived of treatment in Kotalipara Health Complex

From Our Correspondent

GOPALGANJ, Nov 25: Kotalipara Thana Health Complex is beset with manifold problems.

Every day a large number of patients from far flung areas come to the health complex, but they have to go back disappointed in absence of proper health care facilities. It is widely alleged.

Insufficient doctors, bed shortage, lack of medicine, unhealthy drainage system, ambulance and polluted environment have shattered the health care service. Ramshackle doors and windows of the health complex also added to the problems.

For carrying patients, rickshaws, vans and pulltats are being used as the ambulance of the health complex. Because of fund shortage, the ambulance could not be repaired.

Shortage of doctors are hampering the treatment facilities. Most of the time doctors remain absent in the health sub-centres, it is also widely alleged.

Patients alleged only simple ailments like common cold, dysentery, headache, are being treated in the 31-bed health complex.

It is alleged that most of the

News snaps

Fog hampers ferry service

MANIKGANJ, Nov 25: Ferrying of vehicles on Aricha-Daulatdia and Aricha-Natakholia routes remained suspended for about six hours till 9 am on Wednesday due to poor visibility after a dense fog covered the surface of the rivers Padma and Jamuna, reports UNB.

Six ferries Shah Amanat, Ranikhet, Shah Jalal, Shah Makhdum, Shah Ali and Shah Enaytपुर got stranded at the mid river from about 3 am due to the fog causing immense suffering to hundreds of passengers. Apart from deep fog, BIWTA sources said, emergence of innumerable shoals and rapid siltation in these strategic channels were hampering ferry movement seriously. Official sources said they are trying to maintain a desirable depth of these channels by removing silts engaging seven dredgers. About six lakh cubic metres of silt were removed from Aricha and Daulatdia points.

No steps to check faulty vehicles

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, Nov 25: Emission of black smoke from the vehicles here has been polluting the environment seriously.

Most of the vehicles which are plying in the town emit black smoke violation traffic rules and causing health hazards. About 1,075 vehicles including buses, trucks, tempo and jeeps, and micro-buses are plying in different routes of the district every day. Owners of the vehicles or the law enforcers took no measures to stop emission of black smoke which has been causing outbreak of various diseases. Local physicians said black smoke is the reason of hypertension, carcinoma, heart and other bronchial diseases. School-going children are the worst sufferers. Mechanical and automobile workers in the district headquarters are also polluting environment. There are allegations that Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) do not bother about the problems of pollution as they are providing fitness certificate to the black smoke emitting vehicles taking bribes frequently. BRTA officials, however, denied the allegation and said traffic police can fine the faulty vehicle owners. Inhabitants of the district have urged the authorities concerned to take necessary steps for preventing emission of black smoke to make the area pollution-free.

41 arrested

RAJBARI, Nov 25: Police, in special drives, arrested 41 people on various charges from different parts in three days since November 20, reports UNB.

Police also recovered two pipe guns, two Indian-made shutter guns, a country-made gun, six rounds of ammunition and 105 bottles of Indian phenisidyl from different places during their drives. Separate cases were filed in respective police.

Foodgrains allocated under FWP

MANIKGANJ, Nov 25: The government under Food for Works Programme (FWP) has allocated 1,457 mts of foodgrains for implementation of 115 projects in seven upazilas during the current fiscal year, reports UNB.

Of the total foodgrains, 164 mts were allocated in Gheor, 179 mts in Doulatur, 201 mts in Harirampur, 185 mts in Shibhalaya, 249 mts in sadar, 180 mts in Satura and 299 mts in Singair upazilas. Officials said out of the total projects, 15 will be implemented in Gheor, 13 in Doulatur, 20 in Harirampur, 12 in Shibhalaya, 20 in Sadar, 19 in Satura and 16 in Singair upazilas. The projects are likely to be completed by December.

Agri-workshop concludes

SHERPUR, Nov 25: A five-day workshop on Integrated Extension Pilot Programme concluded here on Thursday, reports UNB.

Upazila Agriculture Extension Coordination Committee in collaboration with Agricultural Service Innovation and Reform Project (ASIRP) organised the workshop at EADC conference room in Nakla upazila. Chaired by Engr Abdul Quader, the programme was addressed, among others, by Deputy Director of Sherpur Khamarbari Abdur Razzaq Bhuiyan, UNO Haradhon Gope, CARE upazila project manager Sufia Akhter and Sherpur Press Club secretary Manirul Islam Lilon. The workshop was told that integrated extension programme of ASIRP is being implemented in country's 12 upazilas on partnership basis. The integrated extension pilot programme has been taken up for implementing the new agriculture extension policy.

Prices of essentials up

SIRAJGANJ, Nov 25: Prices of essential commodities continued to show an upward spiral in the district ahead of the holy month of Ramadan, reports UNB.

Locals said a section of dishonest businessmen in blind pursuit of profit during Ramadan started hoarding commodities, pushing up their prices. They said the supply of essential goods in the market dropped since Sab-e-Barat, victimising low-income group people. Market sources said onion is now selling at Tk 26 to 28 against Tk 12 last month. Besides, prices of sugar, pea, ginger, mutton, chicken, beef, garlic have also shot up. "It's unlikely that the prices will come down unless the government comes up with stringent measures," commented a shopper.

Convicts snatched by people

SUNAMGANJ, Nov 25: Local people snatched two absconding convicts from police while they were being taken to the thana from Pailon village in Tahipur upazila on Monday morning, reports UNB.

A team of police led by SI Jalal, acting on a tip, went to the house of the convicted accused Sayed and Badsha Mia and managed to arrest them. A court sentenced them to life term imprisonment in absentia recently in a murder case. While police were taken them to the thana after the arrest they raised hue and cry and the local villagers rushed to the spot and clashed with the police. At one stage they snatched the convicts injuring police constable Jaded seriously. He was rushed to the upazila health complex. A case was filed.

Road mishaps kill eight in six districts

Eight people have been killed in separate road accidents in six districts, report agencies.

In Bagerhat, a fish trader was killed in a traffic mishap on Thursday on Bagerhat-Khulna highway in Sadar upazila.

Witnesses said Moulana Skeikh Abul Bashar of West Saira in sadar upazila was killed when a police van knocked him down at Barakpur bus stand. He died on the spot.

Two people were killed and six others injured in separate road mishaps at Zagr and Borongal on Dhaka-Aricha highway under Manikganj district on Monday.

Police said Kasimuddin, 35, a truck driver, died on the spot and six people were injured when their goods-laden truck hit another truck at Zagr.

In another mishap, one Bhola Haider was crushed under the wheels of a speeding truck in Borongal area.

The injured were hospitalised. Separate cases were filed.

In Jhenidah, a schoolteacher was killed in a traffic mishap at Anuakandi on Dhaka-Khulna highway in sadar upazila last week.

Witnesses said Mozammel Haque, 36, of Shaphkholia village in Shaikupa upazila, a teacher of Panami High School in sadar upazila, died on the spot when he was run over by speeding truck.

The driver along with the vehicle, however, managed to flee. A case was filed with the police.

In Laxmipur, a boy was killed and seven other people were injured when a truck skidded off and fell into a roadside ditch in Laxmipur

pourashava area last week.

Police said the speeding truck turned turtle on Ramgati-Laxmipur road at 9.30 am and ran over Sumon, 11, before it fell into the ditch. The injured were admitted at the local hospital.

Driver and helper of the bus, however, managed to flee the scene.

In Faridpur, a college teacher was run over under the wheels of a speeding bus at Madhukhal bus terminal on Faridpur-Khulna highway recently.

The victim was identified as Nurul Alam Chowdhury, 36, a lecturer of Islamic Studies of Bir Shrestha Abdur Rouf Degree College.

Police said Alam met the accident as the bus suddenly speeded up when he tried to get into it to go to Boalkhal at about 12.45 pm.

After the accident, angry students of the college blocked the road and damaged at least 25 passing vehicles, disrupting road communication between Barisal and Dhaka.

In Mymensingh, two people, including a boy, were killed in separate road accidents at Jaroraria on Mymensingh-Fulbaria road and Ishwarganj on Mymensingh-Kishoreganj road recently.

The victims were identified as Chan Mia, 32, and Prince Pandit, 3.

Police said Chan Mia was crushed under the wheels of a Maxicab at Jaroraria in morning when he was walking along the footpath.

Agitating people raised blockade on the road disrupting vehicular movement for over two hours.

In another accident at Ishwarganj, a Mymensingh-bound bus from Kishoreganj hit Prince at about 1 pm killing him on the spot.

Telecom in Gaibandha yet to be modernised

From Our Correspondent

GAIBANDHA, Nov 25: Telecommunication system of Gaibandha district is about to be collapsed due to age-old equipment and lack of proper maintenance.

As such it has become almost impossible to contact anywhere elsewhere in the country over telephone.

The only telephone exchange here remains under analog system which could not meet up the present requirement of consumers. The trunk boards set up in the exchange have already expired its scheduled period. It is in a miserable condition. Almost all the trunk circuits have gone out of order. So it is hard to get a trunk call connection properly. The consumers are to wait for hours together for getting a distance call which ultimately ends in consumers' despair.

The telephone network here is yet to be brought under digital or ISD system. So sufferings of people are being multiplied gradually.

The NWD system here is now on verge of collapse. The outgoing channels of NWD remain inoperative most of the time.

A few years back the authorities introduced six booths of card phone in different areas of Gaibandha Municipality, but almost all the time the card phone booths remain out of order.

Besides, widespread corruption and misuse of telephones attribute to huge revenue loss.

Man killed in road accident

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Nov 25: One person named Abdul Kader, 40, was killed when a tempo and a rickshaw collided head on at Poba on Thursday.

Kader was going to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital with his wife by a rickshaw van.

Literacy drive in Comilla after Ramadan

COMILLA, Nov 25: Literacy programme under the government's Total Literacy Movement (TLM) 'Pathkrit Comilla' will begin in four upazilas after the holy month of Ramadan, reports UNB.

The upazilas are Sadar, Chandina, Brahmanpara and Nangolkot.

Official sources said to make the programme a success, appointment of supervisors and teachers have already been started.

Each of the teachers will run a centre of 30 students aged between 16 and 45 years to make them able to read and write in six months. After completion of the lessons, a final evaluation will be held.

According to an official estimation, 806,001 people, including 437,797 women aged between 16 and 45 years, are illiterate in 12 upazilas.

Meanwhile, 5,700 people were declared literate under a pilot project that began in June 1990.

Another BSS report from

Luxmipur says: TLM entitled 'Prosofotia Luxmipur' is progressing fast.

People are now realising that their backwardness is due to illiteracy and are much eager to overcome that curse as early as possible.

TLM programme was first started as a project in 1998 as part of the countrywide movement for removing illiteracy.

The main programme was launched on first September 2000, inaugurated by the secretary of Primary and Mass Education Department Dr Saadat Hossain.

A total of 3,40,117 persons including 1,80,289 women were illiterate in four upazilas of the district. A total of 11,338 centres including 6,009 centres for women were set up and the same number of teachers were employed for the purpose. The whole district areas were demarcated into 756 blocks having same number of supervisors to look after the progress of the movement. In addition 79 com-

mittees and nine sub-committees were formed in this regard.

Learners and teachers were given educational materials by the authorities.

The approved budget for completion of the programme is Taka 10,35,12,112. Out of that each of 11,338 teachers and 756 supervisors are being paid Taka 500 and Taka 1,200 respectively as remuneration per month, and the rest will be utilised for all sorts of logistic supports.

Kamanna massacre

People still remember 28 martyrs

From Delwar Kabir

JHENIDAH, Nov 25: As November 27 approaches every year, residents in Jhenidah and Magura districts remember 28 freedom fighters, who were brutally killed by the Pakistani soldiers during the War of Liberation with heavy heart.

The freedom fighters took shelter at houses of Madhab Chandra, Shamela Begum and

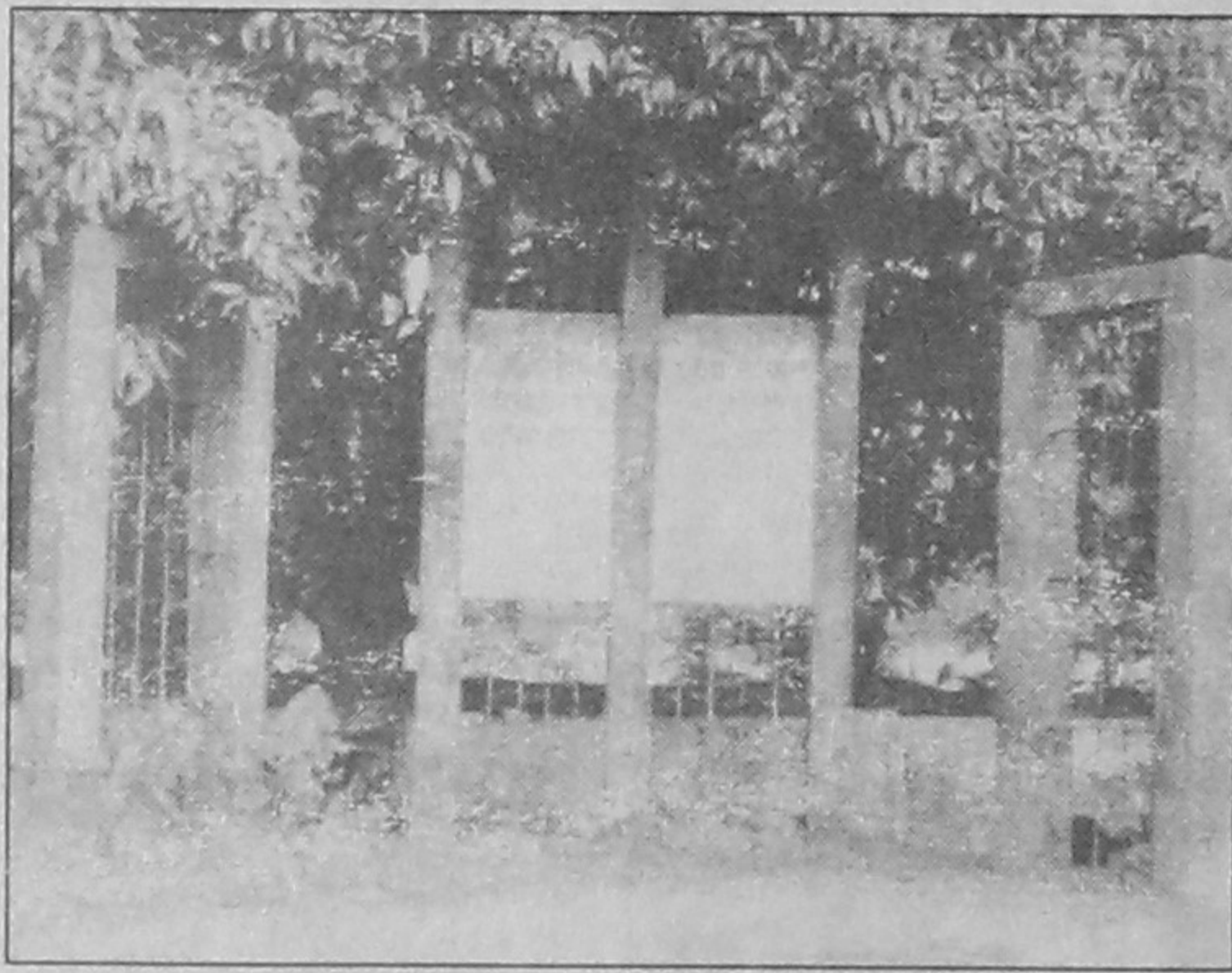
others at village Kamanna under Shalakuppa upazila in Jhenidah district. In the early hours of November 27, 1971 Pakistani suddenly attacked the village, bordering the then Jhenidah and Magura sub-divisions, and gunned down the 28 freedom fighters. The martyrs are Riat Ali, Solaiman Sikdar, Nirmal Kumar Biswas, Abdul Aziz, Moniruzzaman, Anisur Rahman, Hossain Ali, Shariful Islam, Masim, Alamgir Hossain, Gour Chandra, Abdur Razzaq, Shahidul Islam, Adhir Kumar Shikdar, Mominuddin, Wahidur Rahman, Munshi Alimuzzaman, Abdul Motalab, Golam Kawsar, Ali Hossain, Tajul Islam, Golzar Rahman, Khondakar Abdur Rashid, Selim Shikdar, Abdul

Kader, Abdus Salek, Ansar Ali and Golam Akbar.

On November 26 a group of 42 freedom fighters entered the village by the side of river Kumar and took shelter in several houses. Until then the village was free from Pakistani occupation forces. So the young guerrillas went to beds with little hesitation. But Pakistani forces stationed in Jhenidah Cadet College and Magura town were informed of the presence of freedom fighters by their local collaborators members of Razakar, Al Badar and Al Shams forces.

Razzaq Mollah and Amjad, two local collaborators, guided the enemy soldiers to the village.

The monument commemorating the 28 martyrs now remains neglected. Local people have urged the authorities concerned to take care of the monument only to show respect to the freedom fighters, who sacrificed their lives for the cause of Bangladesh.



A neglected Shaheed Minar at Kamanna in Jhenidah district. It requires proper maintenance. --Star photo

Govt of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD
Road Division, Comilla

Notice Inviting Tender

- Tender Notice No : 50/EE of RHD, Road Division, Comilla during the year 2000-2001
- Name of work : Emergency repairing the China Roller No. 010 under Road Division, Comilla during the year 2000-2001
- Estimated cost : Tk 89,700/-
- Earnest money : Tk. 1794/- in BD/Pay Order in favour of EE (RHD), Road Division, Comilla.
- Name of offices : Superintending Engineer, where tender bids will be received RHD, Road Circle, Comilla & office of the undersigned.
- Name of offices of : Office of the undersigned/EE, RHD, Road Division, B'baria/Chandpur/Planning and Design Divn, Comilla & SDE's office under this Division.
- Time allowed : 10 (Ten) days from the date of work-order.
- Last date of selling : 4-12-2000 up to office of tender bids hours.
- Last date of : 5-12-2000 up to 12-30 PM dropping of tender bids
- Date, place of : 6-12-2000 in the office of the opening of tender EE, (RHD), Comilla bids
- Date of the lottery : 7-12-2000.
- Eligibility of : "A" to "E" general category contractor of RHD contractor.

Md. Rafiqul Islam
Executive Engineer, RHD
Road Division, Comilla.

DDP-28314-21/11
G-2065

IU admission seekers face transport problem
From IU Correspondent

ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY, Kushtia Nov 25: The admission seekers in Islamic University (IU) are facing an acute transport problem due to an indefinite transport strike on Dhaka Kushtia highway from November 22.

The admission seekers are now travelling along the 25-kilometre path by rickshaws or nasiman (power tiller driven vehicle) instead of bus. On average 8,000 persons both admission seekers along with their guardians make their journey every day from Kushtia and Jhenidah towns to the university campus. The campus is 25 kilometres away from both the towns.

A total of 34,035 students are taking part in the admission test this year for 1090 seats under 18 departments which started on November 23 and will continue till November 29.

The admission seekers are now staying in Kushtia and Jhenidah towns far away from the campus, due to accommodation problem near the university campus.

Mourning procession
From Our Correspondent
CHITTAGONG, Nov 25: Chittagong University Teachers' Association (CUTA) brought out a procession here in the city on Tuesday, mourning the death of Prof KM Nurul Huda, who was killed in a road accident on October 23.

The procession led by CUTA President Dr Anupam Sen started from Shaheed Minar premises and after parading different thoroughfares ended in Chittagong Press Club compound.

CUTA members demanded punishment to those responsible for the accident. They also urged the authorities to take measures to force drivers of vehicles to abide by traffic rules.

Bangladesh Rifles Headquarters
Administrative Directorate,
Cue & Ord Section
Peelkhana, Dhaka

Re-Tender Notice
Number: 401/17/XX/Cue
Dated: 06 Agrahayan 1407/November 20, 2000

- Sealed tenders are invited by this establishment from enlisted/non-enlisted contractors of this section for ABC and Carbon-di-Oxide type fire extinguisher for dry powder Nitrogen and Carbon-di-Oxide gas refill respectively during 2000-2001 fiscal year.
- Schedule of tender can be procured from number 3 and 4 gates of BDR Headquarters at Peelkhana from the RP on duty on payment of Taka 400.00 (four hundred) till 30-11-2000 Thursday from the day of publishing the advertisement. The undersigned can be contacted during office hours that from 0800 hours to 1400 hours excepting government holiday for any information. Tenderers can submit their tenders in the tender box kept at the gate number 4 of BDR, Peelkhana on 03-12-2000 by 1200 hours at tender box will be opened the same day at 1230 hours in presence of tenderers (if anyone remains present).
- The authority reserves the power to reject or accept any or all tenders without assigning any reason.

DAQM
On behalf of the Director
General.

DDP-24409-22/11
G-2067

Bangladesh Power Development Board
বাংলাদেশ বিদ্যুৎ উন্নয়ন বোর্ড

সময় মতো সঠিক বিদ্যুৎ বিল পরিশোধ করুন
সরকারকে ফাঁকি দেয়ার প্রবণতা বন্ধ করুন

Invitation of Local Tender

- Local sealed tenders are invited by BPDB Project Director 18-Towns Power Distribution Project from renowned manufacturers/authorised agents for the procurement of Brand New Vehicles for 18-Towns Power Distribution Project (Phase-II), as detailed below:

No	Tender enquiry No & date	Description of equipment/materials	Quantity	Cost of tender document	Tender receiving and opening date
1.	PUR-18T/Vehicle(2)/2000 Dt 13.11.2000	Supply of reputed brand new (Latest Model) with advance facilities vehicle along with accessories (as per technical specifications stated in the tender document); Petrol jeep, 4-Cycle, 4-Cylinder, 5-Door, 5-Seat, 1800cc to 2000cc.	2 (two) Nos	Tk 1500.00	04-12-2000
2.	PUR-18T/Vehicle(3)/2000 Dt 14-11-2000	Supply of reputed brand new (Latest Model) Motor Cycle (80cc to 100cc) as per specifications stated in the tender document.	18 (eighteen) Nos	Tk 1000.00	11-12-2000

- A complete set of tender documents may be purchased by interested bidders from on submission of written application to the undersigned and upon payment of non-refundable fee of taka as mentioned in column-5 above against the tender in the shape of Bank Draft/Pay Order in favour of Project Director, 18-Town Power Distribution Project, PDB, Dhaka.
- A bid bond equivalent to 5% of the offered price (highest price as quoted) shall be submitted with tender.
- Tender will be received in the office of the undersigned up to 11.30 AM and will be opened at 11.45 AM in the prescribed date as mentioned in column-6 above in presence of the intending bidders or their representatives if any. Tender shall neither be sent by post nor it will be sold on the opening day. Offer sent by Post/Telex/DHL/Fax will neither be received nor it will be accepted.
- Due to unavoidable circumstance (if any) selling & receiving date shall be shifted to immediate next working day.

Biddut/Jana-940(5)/2000-2001
DDP-28202-21/11
G-2066

B Zaman
Project Director
18-Towns Power Distribution Project (Phase-II)
BPDB, Dhaka.