

Work on new law to make EC independent on: CEC

UNB, Dhaka
Work on formulating a new law to make the Election Commission independent is continuing in full swing.

Chief Election Commissioner MA Sayed said this while he was talking to a delegation of Bangladesh Human Rights Commission (BHRC) at his office yesterday.

The six-member delegation led by Chief Advisor of Bangladesh Human Rights Commission and Chairman of UNB Amanullah Khan handed over to CEC a comprehensive report on observation of the October 1 general elections.

The CEC told the delegation that the EC has taken up a plan to initiate voters' education programme all over the country soon.

Other members of the delegation were BHRC general secretary Saiful Islam Dildar, advisors Dr ASM Badruddoza and RK Chowdhury, executive director Mosharraf

Hossain Chowdhury and assistant human rights officer M Monir Hossain.

The 100-page report, prepared without any foreign aid, included the polls-related incidents, opinions of political parties that took part in the election and poll observers as well as evaluation and an 8-point recommendation of BHRC.

EC Secretary Saiful Islam, its Consultant of Voter Education Project Lionel J Wolnar, Deputy Secretary M Zakaria and other senior officials were present.

Ctg city road made off-limit to rickshaws

CU CORRESPONDENT
After the capital, the port city of Chittagong is also going to impose ban on the movement of rickshaws to make the city free from traffic jam.

The Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) will clamp a ban on rickshaws plying from Tigerpass to Berek Building in the port city from this morning.

The CMP took the decision at a meeting with rickshaw owners of the city on January 3.

As a result of the ban, the two-mile long stretch of the road will be off-limit to rickshaws which will be allowed to cross the road only at different points.

Weekly Film Show begins in Ctg tomorrow

CU CORRESPONDENT
The 'Weekly Film Show' will begin at the Shishu Academy auditorium in the port city tomorrow.

Organised by the Chittagong Film Centre (CFC), the film show will be held every Friday.

The CFC will screen 'Kanchanzangha', a famous movie directed by Satyajit Ray, at the inaugural ceremony.

CFC will also screen 'Besieged', directed by eminent Italian director Bernardo Bertolucci, on January 18, and 'The Runner', an Iranian film by Amir Naderi, on January 25.

The CFC will also arrange a study circle at its office in the port city every month.



JSD staged a demonstration in the city yesterday demanding withdrawal of price hike of fuel oil, gas, water and electricity.

BIAN launches campaign for arsenic victims

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh International Action Network (BIAN), an organisation of Bangladeshis living in the United Kingdom, has taken steps for getting justice for the victims of arsenic poisoning in Bangladesh.

A group of legal advisors from home and England said this at a press conference in the city yesterday.

"I don't think that the government and the politicians are seriously looking into the arsenic problem. Poor people are dying from slow poisoning. I guess there is lack of seriousness in it," Kumar Murshid, Chairman of BIAN and a Councilor of London Borough of Tower Hamlets and also the Regeneration Advisor to the Mayor of London, said.

BIAN is assisted by two Bangladeshi organisations: Brotee and Dhaka Community Hospital (DCH) that have been carrying research on the effects of arsenic poisoning and the treatment of arsenic patients.

BIAN and its Bangladeshi associates decided to take legal measures against persons responsible for arsenic contamination.

Barrister Ajmalul Hossain, Queen's Counsel and a senior Advocate of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh, has been assisting them in this legal battle.

Some legal actions are being

taken currently in Bangladesh and the U.K. to protect the fundamental rights of Bangladeshis.

BIAN is also preparing to file proceedings in England against the British Geological Survey (BGS) for its negligence to arsenic detection. In the early 80's, the Bangladesh government backed by international agencies wanted to explore the possibility of sinking tube wells to extract underground water which was believed to be uncontaminated.

With that end in view, the then Bangladesh government asked the BGS in 1992 to carry out survey in central and north-eastern part of the country. Accordingly the BGS conducted the surveys but reportedly ignored arsenic.

While addressing the conference, Jenny Kennedy, a UK lawyer helping the legal battle said, "On the part of BGS it is a serious lapse and a catastrophic failure. It must be brought to justice."

Sources said the effects of arsenic poisoning on human health are severe, often lethal leading to various physical and mental impairments including cancer.

Researchers have found that water drawn by shallow tube wells in the affected areas contain arsenic which has been causing havoc

on the health of the people taking it.

The problem arises when shallow tube wells are sunk without testing for arsenic. It is a fact that millions of Bangladeshis are already affected by this problem. Many more will be affected unless steps are taken by the authorities to redress it.

BIAN, Brotee and DCH believe that the indiscriminate sinking of shallow tube wells by past governments with the assistance of different aid agencies like UNICEF, World Bank and DFID has exposed the country to this serious environmental and health problem. They failed to identify the problem by testing the water before sinking the shallow tube wells.

"Although the problem has been well known to successive governments and the donors, little has been done to resolve it," said one of the speakers alleging that "The cause of the arsenic victims has not been taken seriously."

BIAN along with its partners have already filed a Writ Petition (No. 2736 of 2001) with the High Court Division against the government and ministries concerned in this regard.

Global confce on water begins Jan 13

BSS, Dhaka

A five-day global conference on "Water, indigenous knowledge and practice role of media" begins in the city on January 13.

The World Water Forum of Journalists (WWFJ) in collaboration with Forum of Environmental Journalists of Bangladesh (FEJB) has organised the conference to focus on the governance and management of water resources to help achieve sustainable development across the world.

WWFJ Secretary General and FEJB Chairman Quamrul Islam Chowdhury yesterday told newsmen that over 100 water experts, journalists and activists from home and abroad will participate in the global journalists meet which would also take them to different water project sites in Bangladesh.

Ahsania Mission signs agreement with HKI

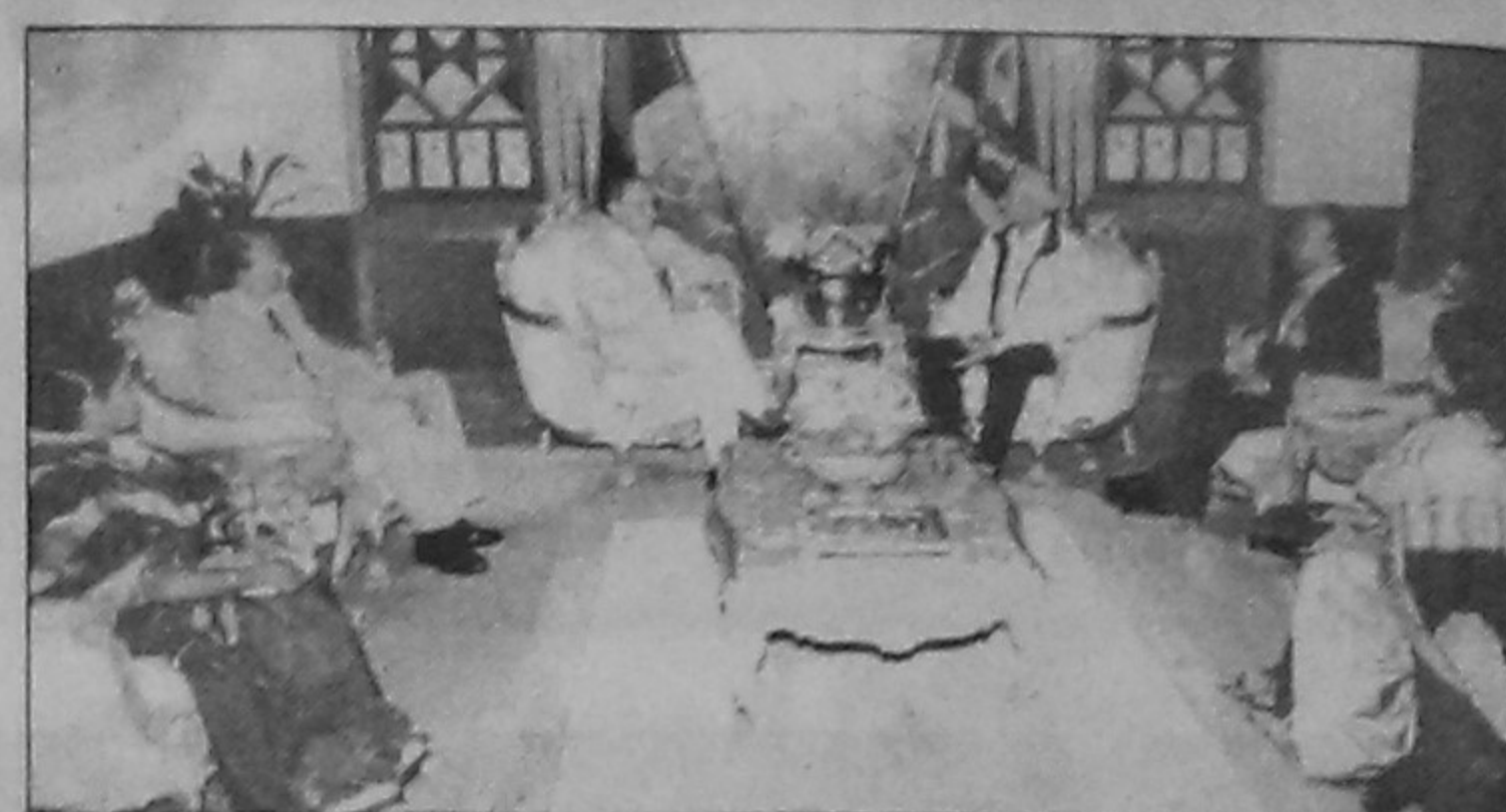
The Dhaka Ahsania Mission and Helen Keller International, Bangladesh, signed a Letter of Agreement to work together to include children with visual impairments in the mission's schools, says a press release.

Kazi Rafiqul Alam, Executive Director of the Mission, and Andrew Hall, Country Director, Helen Keller International, signed the agreement on behalf of their respective organisations at the Mission's head office in the city on Tuesday.

Among others, Guy Le Fanu, Advisor, Rehabilitation and Eye Health of HKI, Project Manager Nazneen Akter, Project Officer Nasrin Banu of HKI and M Ehsanur Rahman, Director of Programme, Dr. Ahmedullah Mia, Director of Research and Monitoring, and Tarek Masud, Sr. Programme Officer of Ahsania Mission were present on the occasion.

The project aims at creating educational opportunity for children with visual impairments in 60 schools in Dhaka city run by Dhaka Ahsania Mission.

Besides, this will also create opportunities for other physically impaired children to study in these schools.



A delegation of The Hunger Project led by its Country Director Dr Badiul A Majumdar called on President AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury at Bangabhaban recently.



Kazi Rafiqul Alam, Executive Director of Dhaka Ahsania Mission, and Andrew Hall, Country Director, Helen Keller International, signing an agreement at the Mission's head office in the city on Tuesday.

CU admission Deadline for distribution of forms extended

CU CORRESPONDENT

Chittagong University (CU) authority has extended the deadline for distribution and submission of the admission forms for the second time.

Admission forms will now be available at the Agrani Bank, CU branch, till January 15 and the forms must be submitted by January 17, university sources said.

The authority has decided to extend the deadline as it did not receive enough response from the admission seekers.

Meanwhile, the university has announced the dates of the admission tests. The tests will begin on January 27 and continue till February 4.

Recruiting licence cancelled

BSS, Dhaka

The government has cancelled the recruiting licence of M/S Mohammad Ullah Chowdhury Establishment Limited involved in manpower business.

It also confiscated all security money of the company, an official handout said yesterday.

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DHAKA ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPANY LTD. (DESCO)

House No. 5, Road No.11/2, Block-B, Section-10, Mirpur, Dhaka-1216

Tender Notice No. 01/2002

- Dhaka Electric Supply Co Ltd.(DESCO)invites sealed bids for Repair and Maintenance works of the System Operation Building at Road-17, Block-C Section-10 Mirpur, Dhaka-1216 from interested eligible firms who have experience in construction / repair and maintenance of civil works worth not less than Tk 5.00 lac in a single work order.
 - Interested bidders may inspect the bidding documents and obtain further information on the bid from the office of the Company Secretary, Dhaka Electric Supply Company Ltd., (DESCO), House # 5, Road # 11/2, Block-B, Section # 10, Mirpur, Dhaka, Bangladesh, during office hours. A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by any interested eligible bidder on submission of a written application to the above address and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Tk. 500/= (Five Hundred) only in the form of Bank Draft or Pay Order from any schedule Bank of Bangladesh in favour of Dhaka Electric Supply Company Ltd.
 - All bids must be accompanied by a bid security equivalent to not less than two and a half percent (2.5%) of total Quoted amount in the form of Bank Draft or Pay Order from any schedule Bank of Bangladesh and must be delivered in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders at the above mentioned address
 - Bid Document will be available for selling from 10/01/2002 to 29/01/2002. Bids will be received upto 12.00 noon on 31/01/2002 and will be opened on the same day at 12.30 PM in presence of bidders or their representatives, if any.
 - Dhaka Electric Supply Company Ltd., (DESCO) will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of bids.
 - Dhaka Electric Supply Company Limited (DESCO) reserves the rights to accept or reject any or all Bids without assigning any reason whatsoever.
 - No bid will be received through Telex or Fax, by Post or by Courier Service.
- January 09, 2002
Memo No. DESCO/C/01/2002/32
- A.H.M Nurul Huda.
Company Secretary

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer
PWD Division-II, Rajshahi

Tender Notice

No. 16 (Sixteen) of 2001-2002 Eng

Tenders in sealed cover are hereby invited in Bangladesh Form No. 2911 from the undermentioned approved contractors of PWD for the undermentioned work. The tender will be received by the undersigned as well as by the Divisional Commissioner, Rajshahi, Executive Engineer, PWD Divn-I, Rajshahi/Natore/Naogaon/Pabna and the Sub-Divisional Engineer, PWD Sub-Division, Nawabganj up to 12-00 Noon of 31-01-2002 Eng. in the tender box kept for the purpose in the room of their respective offices and will be opened by them on the same date at 12-15 PM in presence of the tenderer who may like to remain present.

Earnest money must accompany with each tender in BD/SDR/PO or CD in favour of the undersigned from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh. Tender documents can be seen and obtained from the office of the undersigned as well as by the Divisional Commissioner, Rajshahi, Additional Chief Engineer, PWD Zone, Rajshahi/Dhaka/Chittagong/Khulna and all the Executive Engineers' offices under PWD Zone, Rajshahi and the Sub-Divisional Engineer, PWD Sub-Division-2/E/M-2, Rajshahi/Nawabganj on payment of fixed usual charges (Non-refundable) during office hours upto 30-01-2002 Eng.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Eligibility of contractors
1.	Construction of 54 new district headquarters in Bangladesh -- one at Nawabganj.	Tk. 37,34,428/-	Tk. 74,689/-	Special class-I/combined class-I/class-I & II approved bldg (civil) contractor of PWD.

Sub-Head:
Construction of gazetted officers dormitory building during the year 2001-2002.

Md. Abu Eahia Sarker
Executive Engineer
PWD Division-II, Rajshahi
Phone No: 772350

DFP-369-6/1/2
G-76

BCIC International Tender Notice

বিসিআইসি'র পণ্য শিল্পায়নে জাতীয় অঙ্গতির প্রতীক

Managing Director, NGFF Ltd, Fenchuganj, Sylhet invites sealed quotation against Tender Enquiry Nos. 1) NGFF/P-502/MTS (MM)/926 for Helical Spring and 2) NGFF/ P-527 (PS)/927 for Control Valve on C&F (C) Chittagong basis under double envelope system. Tender documents may be purchased at Tk. 25/- & Tk. 50/- only per set respectively (non-refundable) from 1) BCIC, 30-31, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka 2) BCIC Branch Office, 6, Agrabad C/A, Chittagong 3) NGFF Ltd., Fenchuganj, Sylhet on all working days during office hours. Quotations against both the tenders will be received on 11.02.2002 up to 11.00 hrs. and will be opened in public immediately thereafter. No tender documents will be sold on the date of opening of the tender.

BCIC-503-2/1/2002
DFP-187-3/1/02
G-56

ATM Alauddin
Manager (Pur)
for Managing Director

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Local Government Engineering Directorate
Office of the Executive Engineer
62, West Agargaon, Dhaka-1207

Memo No. LGED/EE/Tender-01/2001/7893 Dated: 14-9-1408 BS/28-12-01

Short Tender Notice

No 31/2001-2002

Tenders in Bangladesh Form No. 2911 under sealed cover are invited from Local Government Engineering Directorate & its all projects pre-qualified 2001-2002 financial year renewed/enlisted (as per class capacity) contractors/contractors' firms for road repairing work 1(one) at Nababganj upazila & 9 (nine) at Savar upazila of Dhaka district under Rural Road & Culvert Repairing Programme during 2001-2002 financial year under Local Government Engineering Directorate. Tender documents can be purchased at prescribed price (non-refundable) from the office of (1) Divisional Commissioner, Dhaka; (2) Superintending Engineer (Maintenance), LGED, LGED Bhaban, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka - 1207; (3) Executive Engineer, LGED, district-Narayanganj/Manikganj/Munshiganj/Narsingdi & (4) Upazila Engineer, LGED, upazila-Nababganj/Savar, district- Dhaka up to office hours of 19-01-2002. Tender will be received at the abovementioned places up to 1-00 PM of 20-01-2002 and the tenders will be opened on the same day at 1-30 PM at the said places in presence (if any) of the tenderers. It may be noted that, if under any circumstance normal movement or normal life is any how disrupted on the date of submitting tender, then tender will be received on the next working day.

Amount of earnest money, time limit for work, additional terms & conditions and other related details can be known from the said offices during office hours prior to submitting tender.

The authority reserves the right to accept any tender or reject all tenders without assigning any reason.

DFP-11-2/1
G-67

Syed Mahbubur Rahman
Executive Engineer

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জমি ক্রয়

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যোগাযোগ: আবুল কালাম আজাদ
অফিস- ৯১২৫৯১২
মোবাইল- ০১৭ ৫২১০০৮

Obituary

Mrs Rawshan Akhter Khair, wife of late Mr. Abul Khair, Ex Secretary, Govt of Pakistan and daughter of Late Khan Bahadur Siddiqur Rahman of 'Siddiq Manzil' Comilla, died on Tuesday, 8th January, 2002 at 12-20 PM (Innalillaha...). She was 72. She was buried beside her husband at Shahpur Dargha Sharif, Comilla. Her namaz-e-zanaja was held at Shahpur Dargha Sharif Comilla. Her "qulhwani" will be held at her Dhanmondi residence at 3-00 PM on Friday, 11th January, at the same time another qulhwani will take place at Shahpur Dargha Sharif, Comilla. Friends & relatives and well-wishers are requested to attend. C-70

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For details, please contact-Information Desk, MIU
Tel : 8817525, Mobile : 018245895, 018245320
E-mail : miu@bdonline.com Registrar

BCIC Tender Notice

বিসিআইসি'র পণ্য শিল্পায়নে জাতীয় অঙ্গতির প্রতীক

Sealed quotations are invited by the Managing Director, Lira Industrial Enterprise Ltd, 82, Tongi Industrial Area, Gazipur for the following:

Sl No	Tender No	Description	Price of tender document (non-refundable)	Terms of delivery	Due date of opening	Earnest money	Source of finance
1.	Lira/Pur /F-8	PVC Resin (Pipe Grade), Calcium Carbonate, Stabilizer & PVC Moulding Compound (Fitting Grade).	700/-	C&F (C) Ctg.	29-1-2002	1%	SEM/WES any suitable source.

Tender will be received up to 2-30 PM on the date mentioned above and will be opened in presence of the tenderers, if any. Tender document with detailed specifications will be available on all working days from BCIC Accounts Division, 30-31, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka, Accounts Section of Lira Industrial Enterprise Ltd, 82, Tongi Industrial Area, Gazipur and BCIC Branch Office, 6, Agrabad, Chittagong. No tender schedule will be sold on the opening day.

Management reserves the right to accept or reject any/all offers.

BCIC 490-31/12/2001
DFP-63-02/01/02
G-45