

## Govt to consider agri insurance for farmers

### PM tells parliament

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia yesterday told parliament that the government would actively consider introducing agricultural insurance to protect farmers from adversities.

Responding to Mohammad Ghashuddin Ahmed (BNP) during the PM's question hour, she said the government at the moment had no plans to reduce interest on farm credits.

She said farmers who repay their loan in time get 2 per cent rebate taking the effective interest rate to 10 to 11 per cent. The present government, after assuming power, has reduced interest rate on agriculture loan by 1 per cent with effect from November 2001.

Repeating to supplementary question from Mazhar Hossain (BNP), Khaleda said the government has plans for the development of land and landless farmers. "Massive programmes have been taken to engage landless and poor

farmers in production process besides agriculture."

Responding to another supplementary from KM Obaidur Rahman (BNP) the prime minister said the government is alert about environment and though use of chemical insecticides and fertilisers had not been stopped, bio-fertiliser had been introduced alongside the chemical inputs.

Massive programmes have been taken to make people aware about the use environment-friendly fertilisers as well as manufacture substitutes for chemical fertilisers in large quantities in phases to make those available to farmers, the PM told parliament.

Replying to another supplementary from Mia Golam Parvar (Jamaat), Khaleda said BADC had been restructured to make the organisation dynamic so that it could produce improved varieties of paddy, wheat and maize besides supplying quality seeds.

## 'Supply of gas to all dists not possible now'

UNB, Dhaka

State Minister for Energy and Mineral Resources A K M Mosharraf Hossain yesterday told parliament that it is not possible to supply gas to all districts so soon as it requires a huge amount of money.

Replying to A B M Ashraf Uddin (BNP), he said it would require Tk 12,000 crore to provide gas for all districts. "We will not get that amount of money and it will not be possible to supply gas to all districts."

He also said the government had not yet taken any decision to export gas.

Replying to another question from Harunur Rashid (BNP), the energy minister said no agreement had been made "only for gas extraction." But some agreements were signed with foreign oil companies under Production Sharing Contracts (PSC) for exploration and production.

Under the deals the govern-

ment will have minimum 60 per cent stakes in the output.

To another question from Shahjahan Chowdhury (Jamaat), Mosharraf said Unocal had paid directly over Tk 38 crore to different organisations as compensation for a disaster caused by the Maurchhara gas blowout.

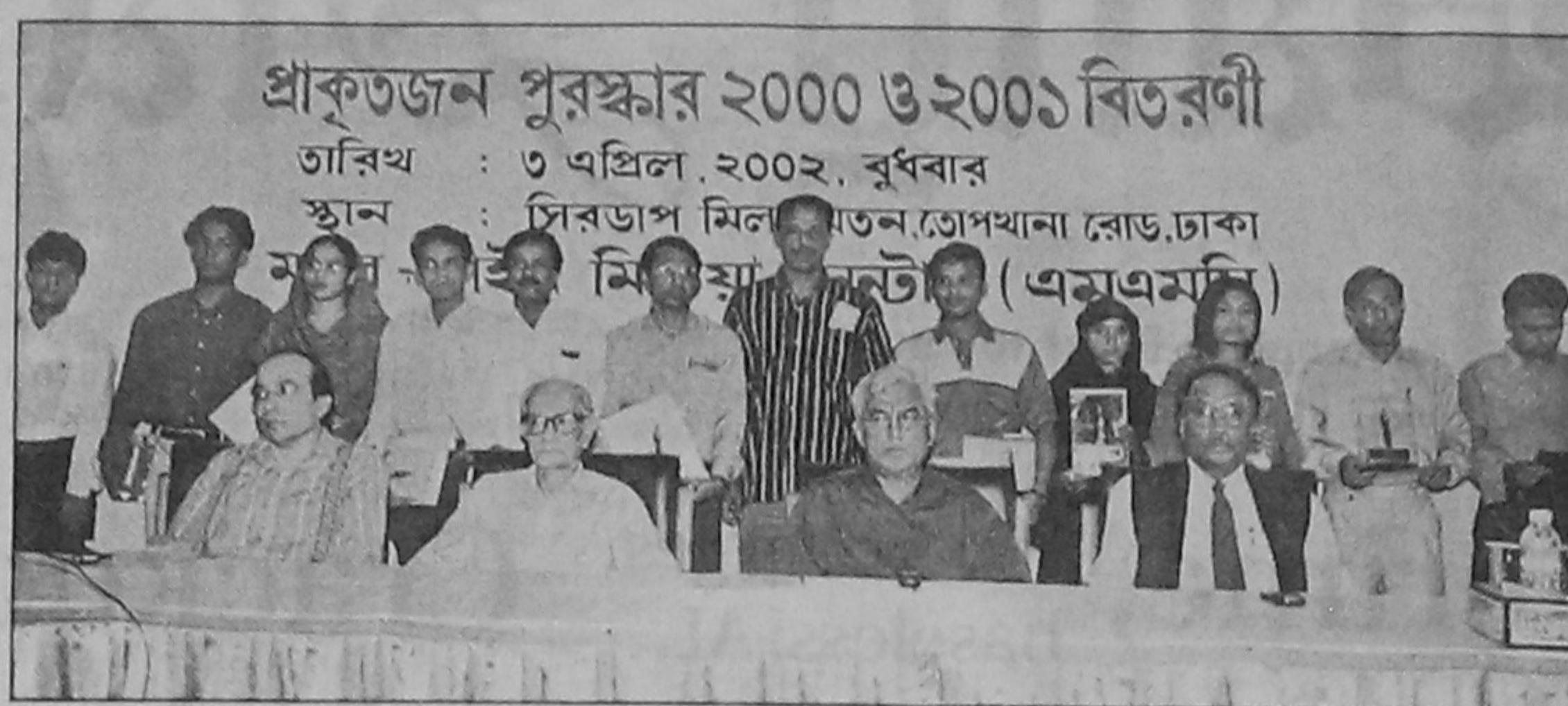
Compensation was given to the owners of 40 tea gardens, Bangladesh Railway, Jalabad Gas System, to 40 tribal families and others for the damage done.

**1142 more held**

BSS, Dhaka

Police recovered three firearms, six different types of weapons with four bullets and arrested 1142 people from different parts of the country during last 24 hours ending 6 am yesterday.

Police rounded up 10 identified terrorists and 550 warrantees during the period, a police press release said.



The recipients of the Praktijan Award with the guests at the award-giving ceremony at the CIRDP auditorium in the city yesterday. The Massline Media Centre awarded 11 journalists for their reports on human rights, democracy and development.

## Prakritjan award for 11 newsmen

UNB, Dhaka

Eleven grassroots level journalists have been given "Prakritjan Award" for 2000 and 2001 for their writings on human rights, democracy and development.

The recipients are UNB Patuakhali correspondent Fayeaz Rahman, senior staff reporter of Ajker Barta Gopal Sarkar, Janakanta Galachipa correspondent Shajkar Lal, Muktakantha Noakhali correspondent Mahmudul Haq Fayeaz, Janakanta Bhola correspondent Liton Bashar, Muzahidul Islam Prince of Patuakhali, Sahida Akhtar Sumana of Jhalakathi, Nurul Alam Masud of Noakhali, Nurunnahar Khan of Barguna, Bipasha Mondal of Pirojpur and Shawkat Mahmud of Fenji.

Instituted by Massline Media Centre, an NGO, the awards were distributed by elderly journalist Obaidul Haq at a function held at CIRDP in the city yesterday.

## Death anniversary

UNB, Dhaka

The 5<sup>th</sup> death anniversary of Dr Ashiqul Alam, a former GS of Dhaka Medical College Students Union and an organiser of 1969 mass upsurge, will be observed today.

Jatiya Ganatantrik Front, a left-leaning alliance, chalked out various programmes to observe the day.

The programmes include placing of wreaths at his grave at Mirpur at 7 am and a discussion meeting at TSC of Dhaka University at 5 pm, said a press release yesterday.

## Improve services

### Bhuiyan tells T&T employees

BSS, Dhaka

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan yesterday called upon the employees and workers of Bangladesh T and T Board (BTB) to improve telecommunications services and facilities to cope with modern requirements.

"The telecommunication facilities have been improved in the last 20 years, but that is not good enough to match with other countries. So, we need more and more development in this sector," he said this while he was inaugurating the councillors' convention of Bangladesh Telecommunication Workers and Employees Federation at Ramna Telephone Bhaban here.

Minister for Posts and Telecommunications Barrister Aminul Haq, State Minister for Posts and Telecommunications Ahsanul Huq Mollah and State Minister for Health and Family Welfare Amanullah Aman, spoke on the occasion.

Presided over by CBA President Firoz Mian, the inaugural function

was also addressed by CBA leaders.

At least 3,500 councillors from 26 regions of BTB attended the day-long convention.

Mannan Bhuiyan, who is also Secretary General of BNP, said trade unions lost their name and fame by creating unrest in the offices during the last regime.

"The demands would be met and problems solved in a disciplined manner, and I believe you will bring back the goodwill of trade union activities," he told the gathering.

He said BTB needs huge investment to improve its facilities, and for investment, peace and stability are required in the country.

The LGRD minister called upon the opposition to join the parliament to place their demands leaving the street movement.

## Transport Owners' Assoc executives

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Mokbul Ahmed and Abdul Motaleb were elected president and general secretary respectively of the Transport Agency Owners Association for 2002-2004, says a press release.

The election was held at the central office of Bangladesh Truck Drivers Union at the city's Tejgaon Truck Stand on March 31.

Other office bearers are: Md. Abul Qasem (vice president), Mia Mostafa Kamal (joint secretary), Md. Abdul Hannan (organising secretary), Sajal Kumar Das (treasurer), Md. Masum Panwar (office secretary), Bahar Mia Babul and Md. Selim Khan (executive members).

## Betar to air VOA programmes from today

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh Betar will broadcast the programmes of Voice of America (VOA) through its FM transmitter from today.

Bangladesh Betar developed additional facilities at its Kalyanpur station for broadcasting the VOA programmes at 97.6 MHz on the FM band.

Information Minister Tariqul Islam and VOA Director Robert Reilly will jointly inaugurate the transmission programme.

VOA Bangla programme will be heard everyday from 7.30 am to 8.00 am and 10.00 pm to 11.00 pm local time, said a USIS press release.

VOA's English language programmes include "VOA News Now" from 6.30 am to 7.30 am, "VOA News Now/Special English" from 8.00 am to 1.00 pm, and "VOA News Now" from 8.00 pm to 10.00 pm.

Bangla and English broadcasts could be received by the listeners in the capital and its surrounding areas with greater clarity than previous short-wave transmissions.

VOA's future plans include installation of FM transmitters in Chittagong, Cox's Bazar, Sylhet, Khulna, Rajshahi, Mymensingh, Rangpur and Barisal stations of the Betar to bring the entire country under the FM signal range.

## David Kilgour visits BRAC programmes

Canadian Secretary of State, for Asia and Pacific David Kilgour MP described his visit to BRAC programmes at village Chandrail in Dhamrai as "very inspirational," says a press release.

Kilgour said what impressed him most was the empowerment and confidence of the women, and the urge of the poor parents for their children's education. The achievement of Bangladesh could be followed by other developing countries as well, he added.

During his one-and-a-half-hour visit, Kilgour, along with the members of his delegation and Canadian High Commissioner David Preston, saw a micro-credit programme, Human Rights and Legal Education course of another group of women, a BRAC School and met the parents of the school children.

Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed, Deputy Executive Director of BRAC, and senior officials at BRAC explained the multifaceted development programme of the BRAC.

## City corporation polls

### EC finalises security plan today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission (EC) will finalise today its security plan to ensure peaceful voting in the April 25 election of Dhaka, Khulna and Rajshahi city corporations, according to official sources.

The commission sits with representatives of the law enforcing agencies as well the armed forces this morning to finalise the plan.

The meeting scheduled to be held at the National Economic Council (NEC) auditorium would focus on law and order at present, recovery of illegal arms and steps against misfeasance. It would also finalise a 'joint operation' by members of the police including armed police battalion and para-

military Bangladesh Rifles, against hooligans ahead of the polls, the sources said.

"Today's meeting would work out strategies for deployment of security personnel for the coming election," said an official.

To prevent possible election offences on the voting day, the EC plans 'summary trial' of the offenders under the existing laws. A total of 943 metropolitan magistrates would be placed at the polling stations in the three cities on the voting day.

Meantime, the EC has announced a code of conduct for the candidates and asked officials concerned to take punitive measures against those who would violate it.

## 12 JOCVs leave for home

Twelve Japanese Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs) left Dhaka on April 2 after completing their respective assignments in Bangladesh, says a press release.

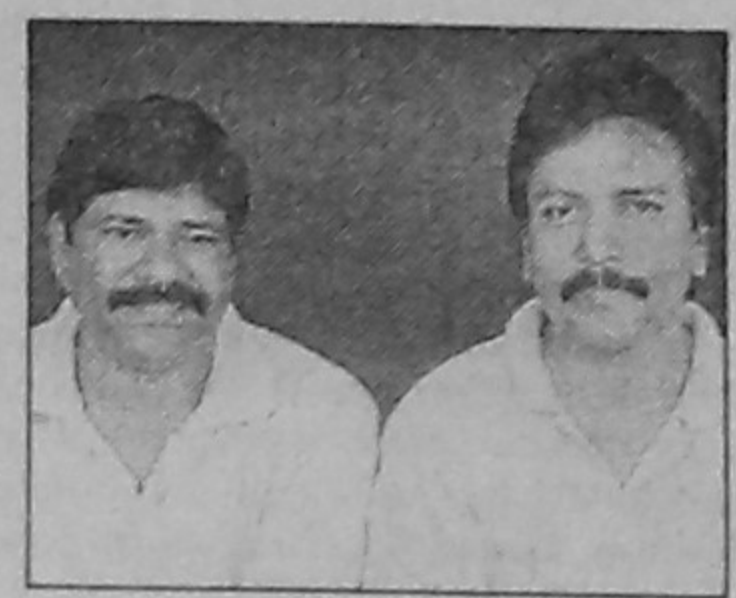
They worked in various sectors such as science teaching, physical education, \* polio surveillance, animal husbandry, electric machinery, automobile, nursing, domestic science and dress making.

During their two-year stay they were attached to public and private organisations.

Bangladesh is one of the 72 beneficiary countries of this programme. Since March 1973, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has dispatched a total of 762 JOCVs to Bangladesh.

At present there are as many as 58 volunteers engaged in various activities throughout Bangladesh.

On April 6, fourteen JOCVs will arrive for a two-year assignment in Bangladesh.



## BPS executives

Bulbul Ahmed and Saydur Rahman Swapan have been elected president and secretary general of the Bangladesh Photographic Society (BPS) respectively, says a press release.

The other elected members are Fazlur Rahman and ANM Shaifulur Islam Swapan - vice presidents, Nurul Alam Badal - joint secretary general, Aktaruzzaman Babu - treasurer, A Khan - organising secretary, M.A. Taher - international affairs secretary, Hemayetuddin Himu - publication secretary, Kalim Santu - exhibition secretary, Md Majibar - public relations secretary, and Ashish Sengupta and Sajida Halim - members.

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দি সিকিউরিটি প্রিন্টিং করপোরেশন (বাংলাদেশ) লিমিটেড  
গাজীপুর-১৭০৩

**মার্কিন কাপড় সরবরাহের দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

করপোরেশন কর্তৃক উপরে উল্লেখিত মালামাল ক্রয়ের জন্য সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে। মালামালের স্পেসিফিকেশন, নিয়মাবলী এবং শর্তাবলী সম্বলিত সিডিউল করপোরেশনের গাজীপুরস্থ কার্যালয়ের অর্থ ও হিসাব উপ-বিভাগ অথবা ঢাকাস্থ লিয়াজো অফিস, ম্যানহাটন টাওয়ার (৪র্থ তলা), ৮-৩, সিঙ্গেলবারী সার্কুলার রোড হতে বেলা ২.০০ ঘটিকা থেকে ৩.৩০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত সকল অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে আগামী ০৬/৪/২০০২ হতে ১৩/৪/২০০২ইং তাং পর্যন্ত প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিজস্ব প্যাকে দরপত্রের মাধ্যমে প্রতি সেট সিডিউল টাং ২০০/- (টাকা দুইশত) মাত্রের বিনিময়ে (অফেরতযোগ্য) ক্রয় করা যাবে।

ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালকের বরাবরে গাজীপুরস্থ অফিসে অথবা ঢাকাস্থ উপরে উল্লেখিত লিয়াজো অফিসে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আগামী ১৩/৪/২০০২ইং তাং দুপুর ৩.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত সরাসরি নির্ধারিত বক্সে drop করা যাবে এবং পাশাপাশি ডাকযোগে কিংবা কুরিয়ার মারফত নির্ধারিত সময়ের মধ্যে গাজীপুরস্থ কার্যালয়ে পৌঁছানো যাবে এবং পরবর্তী কার্যদিবসে বেলা ২.১০ ঘটিকায় দরদাতাদের সামনে (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) প্রাপ্ত সকল দরপত্র গাজীপুরস্থ কার্যালয়ে খোলা হবে।

মোঃ মজিবুর রহমান আকন্দ  
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**International Re-Tender Notice**

1. Biman Bangladesh Airlines invites sealed offers in two envelope system from Airlines or Aircraft overhauling Agencies, having in-house capability/facility for accomplishment of D-Check (HMV) on DC 10-30 aircraft, for performance of D-Check (HMV) on one of its DC 10-30 aircraft Regn: S2-ACQ (MFN 300). The prospective bidders must have necessary Approval of JAA/FAA and the Local Regulatory Authority for accomplishment of D-Check on DC 10 aircraft.

2. The check will be due for accomplishment in the month of August/September 2002.

3. Sealed offer must be addressed to **Director Engineering, Biman Bangladesh Airlines, Biman Hangar Complex, Zia International Airport, Dhaka-1229, Bangladesh** and dropped in the tender box kept in his Secretariat latest by 1430 hours BST (0830 UTC) on 07 May 2002. Tenders will be opened at 1445 hours BST on the same day in presence of the bidders or their authorized representatives, if any.

4. No offer by Fax/Telex shall be accepted.

5. Bidder is to submit six (06) sets of bid along with original or certified photocopy of the money receipt in respect of purchase of tender schedule.

6. Clarification, if any, may be sought from Director Engineering, latest by 1500 hrs. BST on 05 May 2002 through Telephone: 880-2-8914460, Fax: 880-2-8913338 or SITA: DACDEBG.

7. Tender schedule containing Work Package and detailed specifications with terms and conditions shall be available with the Accounts Officer, Cash & Banking, Finance Directorate, Biman Head Office, Balaka Building, Kurmitola, Dhaka-1229 during working hours from 08 April 2002 to 04 May 2002 for sale on non-refundable cash payment of Taka 25,000.00 (Taka twenty-five thousand) only. Tender schedule will also be available in the following Biman overseas offices on non-refundable cash payment of US\$ 500.00 (US dollar five hundred) only from 10 April 2002 to 03 May 2002. AMSTERDAM, BANGKOK, DUBAI, FRANKFURT, HONG KONG, KUALA LUMPUR, LONDON, NEW YORK, PARIS, ROME, SINGAPORE & TOKYO.

8. Re-tender notice and tender schedule (excluding work-package) can be viewed/downloaded from Biman's web site [www.bimanair.com](http://www.bimanair.com)

9. Biman Bangladesh Airlines reserves the right to accept or reject any or all offers submitted by the bidders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

**Director Engineering**  
Biman Bangladesh Airlines  
GD-256

**In loving Memory of Late Salahuddin Ahmad**  
(May 6, 1926 - April 4 1996)

This day six years back, You left this world for eternity. But you will always live in our hearts and be loved by us. May Almighty Allah rest your soul in eternal peace. We request all his friends and well wishers to remember him in their prayer.

Wife, Children  
Grand Children

**বিজ্ঞপ্তি**  
যুগ্ম জেলা জজ ১ নং (অর্থ ঋণ) আদালত, সাতক্ষীরা

অর্থ ঋণ জারি- ডিক্রিদারঃ দেনদারঃ  
৩/৯/৪

সোনালী ব্যাংক মোঃ ফজর আলী বিশ্বাস  
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থানা ও জেলা-সাতক্ষীরা উপজেলা-সাতক্ষীরা  
জেলা-সাতক্ষীরা

যেহেতু দেনদার ডিক্রিদার ব্যাংকের নিকট হইতে ঋণ পরিশোধের মেয়াদ উত্তীর্ণ হওয়া সত্ত্বেও দেনদার কর্তৃক বিভিন্ন সময়ে সর্বপ্রকার তবব তাগিদা প্রদান সত্ত্বেও ঋণ পরিশোধ না করার এবং পরিশোধ করিতে অস্বীকার করার ডিক্রিদার ব্যাংক এই মোকদ্দমা দায়ের করিয়াছেন। ডিক্রিদার কর্তৃক দাবীকৃত অর্থের পরিমাণ ৭,০৭,৯৫৯/০১ টাকা এবং পরবর্তী সুদ ঋরচার টাকা ৭,০৭,৯৫৯/০১ এবং যেহেতু দেনদার আদালতে সমন ইচ্ছাকৃতভাবে গ্রহণ না করিয়া আদালতে হাজিরা এড়াইয়া যাইতেছেন, সেহেতু অর্থ ঋণ আইনের ৫৬ ধারার ক্ষমতা বলে দেনদার পক্ষের উপর এই বিজ্ঞপ্তি জারি করা হইল এবং প্রকাশিত এই বিজ্ঞপ্তি দেনদারদের উপর সমন জারির প্রমান হিসাবে গণ্য হইবে। আগামী ১৬/০৪/০২ইং তারিখে এই মোকদ্দমার পরবর্তী দিন ধার্য হইবে।

আদালতের আদেশক্রমে  
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জিডি-২৫৫ সাতক্ষীরা

**The Dhaka Chamber of Commerce & Industry**  
65-66, Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka-1000

**Tender Notice for Supply and Installation of Lift**

The Dhaka Chamber of Commerce & Industry (DCCI) invites sealed Tenders from reputed lift suppliers for the work of Supply & Installation, Testing & Commissioning of a Passenger lift having capacity of 1150 kg. (13-15 persons) including all related works (Civil and Electrical) for 12-Storeyed Annexe Building of the DCCI.

Tender Schedule incorporating terms and conditions of the Tender Document and specifications will be available from **07-04-2002 to 27-04-2002** at the office of the undersigned during office hours at a cost of Tk. 500/- (five hundred) each set (Non-refundable).

Tender will be received at the office of the undersigned upto **12:00 noon on 28-04-2002** and offers shall be opened at **12:30 p.m.** on the same day at the same place in presence of the Tenderers who may like to attend.

Present shaft size from inside is 8'-0"x6'-5" and door opening 7'-0"x3'-5". The intending Tenderers may visit the site and collect relevant information if necessary within office hours.

The tenderers are requested to submit tender documents in to envelop system (Technical and Financial) along with earnest money @ 2.50% (Two and half per cent) of respective quoted amount in the form of bank draft or pay order on any Scheduled Bank in favour of the DCCI.

The Management of the DCCI reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

**Secretary**