

Water crisis in Sylhet

Water Supply Project not yet completed

IQBAL SIDDIQUEE, Sylhet

The people of Sylhet town have long been suffering from water crisis as the Sylhet Water Supply Project could not be completed even two years after the scheduled time.

Though a handful number of well-off people had sunk deep tubewells for collecting water, most of the people are still dependent on the shallow tubewells and the existing water supply system of pourashava, which cannot meet the demand of the town-dwellers.

Pourashava authority has an indigenous system to supply water through its age-old deep tubewells. It has a capacity of only 16.48 lakh gallons of water whereas the total demand of the town-dwellers now stands at 82.44 lakh gallons.

11-party leaders visit Jamal's house at Kapasia

UNB, DHAKA

Central leaders of left-leaning 11 parties yesterday visited the house of slain Jamaluddin Fakir at Kapasia upazila in Gazipur and consoled his family members.

Later, the leaders offered prayers at the graveyard of Jamal and held a meeting there in protest against the death of Jamal, who was reportedly killed by police.

In the meeting, Nirmal Sen demanded formation of a judicial inquiry committee headed by a judge of the Supreme Court and punitive measures against the policemen involved in the killing.

NOTICE: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION WILL BE HELD ON 08 MAY 2002 AT 3 PM AT BALL ROOM OF HOTEL SONARGAON. ALL MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO ATTEND THE MEETING TO MAKE IT A SUCCESS. AGENDA AND OTHER DETAILS ARE GIVEN IN THE "NOTICE LETTER" FOR INFORMATION AND COMPLIANCE.

IN THE 2ND PHASE AFTER THE AGM "BEMEA DIRECTOR 2001-2003" AND "WEB-SITE" INAUGURAL FUNCTION WILL BE HELD. HONOURABLE COMMERCE MINISTER MR. AMIR KHOSRU MAHMUD CHOWDHURY M.P. HAS KINDLY CONSENTED TO BE THE CHIEF GUEST IN THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY.

DATE: MAY 08, 2002. TIME: AT 3:00 PM.
PLACE: BALL ROOM AT THE PAN PACIFIC SONARGAON HOTEL FOR FURTHER DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT BEMEA OFFICE.

MAJ. EKRAM UDDIN SIDDIQUEE (RETD.) MR. MAINUL ISLAM BHIHUYAN
PRESIDENT SECRETARY GENERAL
BANGLADESH FIBROIDERY MANUFACTURERS & EXPORTERS ASSOCIATION (BEMEA)
HOUSE NO. 505, ROAD NO. 35, NEW DOHS, MOHAKHALI, DHAKA-1206.
TEL.: 600866, 017-527879

বাংলাদেশ মুক্তিযোদ্ধা কল্যাণ ট্রাস্ট

স্বাধীনতা ভবন
শিল্প ও বাণিজ্য বিভাগ
৮৮, মতিখিল বা/এ, ঢাকা-১০০০
ফোন নং ৯৫৫০৩৭০

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি স্থগিত প্রসঙ্গে

দরপত্র নং পিই/টিএ/আইএনটি/টিআর-৩৩৪/২০০০-২০০২, তারিখ ০২/০৪/২০০২ ইং মোতাবেক ২৫০ এম এল গ্রাস বোতল আমদানির জন্য দৈনিক দিনকাল ও দি ডেইলি স্টার পত্রিকায় ০৩/০৪/২০০২ইং তারিখে আন্তর্জাতিক দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি আহ্বান করা হইয়াছিল। উক্ত দরপত্রটির কার্যকরিতা অনিবার্য কারণ বশতঃ পূর্ণ বিজ্ঞপ্তি না দেওয়া পর্যন্ত স্থগিত করা হইল।

(মোঃ আজিজুর রহমান)
মহা-ব্যবস্থাপক শিল্প ও বাণিজ্য

MEGHNA CEMENT MILLS LTD.

Sena Kalyan Bhaban (14th Floor)
195, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000

NOTICE TO THE SHAREHOLDERS

This is for kind information of the valued shareholders of the Company that a meeting of the Board of Directors of Meghna Cement Mills Ltd. was held on 24 April, 2002 from 12:15 PM to 1:00 PM in the Head Office of the Company. Following decisions were unanimously taken in the said meeting:

1. Proposed Dividend for the year 2001 : 25% Cash dividend
2. Date of Annual General Meeting : 22 May 2002 (at 11.00 AM)
3. Venue of Annual General Meeting : Factory premises of Meghna Cement Mills Ltd. at Mongla Port I/A., Mongla.
4. Book Closure : 16 May 2002 to 22 May 2002 (both days inclusive)

Sd/-
Company Secretary



Preparations for DCC elections: Ballot papers for today's DCC elections were sent to different polling centres, including the Motijheel Govt. Boys' High School (left), in the city yesterday. (Right) A polling booth is being set up at the Willes Little Flower School.

HTR opens new horizon to working children

BSS, Dhaka

Every child dreams about a bright future. But there are many stories to tell when a child like Shaheen Ara says, "I want to be educated to end the miseries of life."

Shaheen Ara is a domestic help in Panchlaish area of Chittagong district. She doesn't like her job at all because her employers beat her almost every day. "They even beat me if I don't play with their child," she said with her eyes tearing.

For children like Shaheen Ara, the Basic Education for Hard To Reach (HTR) Urban Children Programme comes as a source of respect, freedom and inspiration.

Now her most favourite time of the day is when she attends the classes of HTR at Sundabipara centre at Panchlaish, Samaj Unnayan Kendra (SUK), a non-government organisation, runs this centre, which is one of the hundreds being implemented under a government scheme.

Education Ministry took up the project in 1998 with the financial support from UNICEF, Government of Sweden and DFID. The project was designed to meet the educational needs of the working children. The government is executing the programme through different non-government organisations in six urban areas.

The teachers at these learning centres play a vital role in the success of this programme. They not only teach the students by creating friendly atmosphere, but also make frequent visits to the houses of their students to monitor their progress and communicate with their families. At times, they also visit the workplaces of the stu-

dents to maintain the communication link with their employers.

A teacher at the Sundabipara centre, Nileema Bhattacharyya, said that she had to work very hard to convince Shaheen Ara's employers to let her come to the centre. "I had to visit almost daily for a month to convince her employers and her mother to allow the girl to join this education programme," she said.

Actually while talking to the children one would feel that HTR project has certainly sparked off a light inside them. It has created a firm belief among the children that the society has a willingness to offer them something better and their guardians would continue to create more facilities for them to become worthy in life.

Ten-year-old Shaheen said that he could now sign his name and read Bangla. "You know if you give thumb print instead of knowing how to sign your name your property could be cheated of you," he said.

The HTR Project was developed against the backdrop of the mounting child labour debate in the country, triggered by the threat of enforcement of Harkin Bill.

The project aims to ensure access, equity and quality education to the working children. Quality non-formal education can help prepare working children for broader options available to them so that they can make their own choices regarding their future.

It is also trying to provide a child-friendly environment where interactive learning takes place. By coming to these learning centres, children get an opportunity to mix with their peers and get their support, and meet teachers who are not punitive in their ways.

The project runs a two-year course, two hours a day, six days a week. At the end of the course, children achieve an equivalency of grade 3 and can be admitted to mainstream education.

graph, in an oblique reference to the portrait of Bangabandhu.

During the survey, the respondents were asked questions on the proposal, its probable impact on the prevailing political situation, and what other alternatives were available. They had choice of multiple answers.

About 62.5 per cent of respondents in Dhaka city said the proposal of Prime Minister Khaleda Zia was a moderate political approach to the issue and it would have no impact on the current political scenario if reciprocated by the other side.

In Chittagong, about 52.4 per cent respondents approved of the proposal. But 38.6 per cent expressed their doubt whether this will end the current impasse between the two main political parties.

In Rajshahi, about 60 per cent of the respondents termed the proposal constructive and 58.6 per cent observed that the proposal would help defuse the tension created centring the debate on displaying the portrait of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

The 48.9 per cent respondents of Khulna city expressed their support to the proposal of Khaleda Zia while 35 per cent observed that only the portrait of head of the government should be displayed in the offices.

About 82.2 per cent of the respondents said that the controversy over the portrait issue should come to an end and political leaders should care more about the development of the country.

Chittagong Port Day today

BSS, Chittagong

Chittagong Port Authority (CPA) will observe 114th anniversary today.

The authority of the country's main seaport has chalked out different programmes to observe this day.

On the occasion of the Port Day, the CPA will hold a seminar on "The Role of Port Authority in Combating Piracy: Context Bangladesh" today at CPA Training Institute. The seminar will be inaugurated by Minister for Shipping Akbar Hossain.

Chittagong Port Authority observes the 'port day' on April 25 each year as the port was institutionalised in 1887 with the enactment of Port Commissioner's Act which was introduced on April 25, 1888. The appointed commissioner started functioning from that year.

During the 9th Century, the Muslim traders known as Baniks from Arab countries started using the Chittagong port as their base port. During the hundreds of years of their use, the name and fame of Chittagong port spread far and wide.

According to the works of great travellers Fa-Hien, Hsueh-ni-Sang and Ibn Battuta, the Chittagong port mingled with the ancient civilisation of the world. Chinese, Turkish and traders from Middle East and Europe used to trade with this part of the world through this port.

In the year 1517, Joaoda Silveira, the first Portuguese captain, reached the port with his ship 'LOPO SOANA'. The year 1526 marked the anchoring of vessels by Captain Caaz Penira at Chittagong.

During and after the Portuguese presence, Chittagong port emerged as a busiest and competitive port in Southeast Asia.



Participants at the inaugural session of a two-day long seminar on 'Rural Poverty Mapping in Bangladesh' that began in the city on Tuesday. The Planning Division in association with the LGED and the International Rice Research Institute organised the seminar.

বিস্তৃষ্টি

গত ১৮/০৪/২০০২ তারিখে প্রকাশিত পরিবার পরিকল্পনা পত্রিকার পরিচালক হিসাবে বর্তমান প্রচারাভিযান সম্পর্কিত ক্ষেত্রপত্রের নীচের অংশে 'সৌজন্যে' : সেক্টর ফর ডেভেলপমেন্ট সার্ভিসেস (সিডিএস) এর পরিবর্তে 'সহযোগিতায়' : সেক্টর ফর ডেভেলপমেন্ট সার্ভিসেস (সিডিএস) হবে।

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(মিল নং-১) সার্ভিস চার্জ ভিত্তিতে পরিচালনার জন্য পাটি নিয়োগের

পুনঃ দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং-আটোল-১/বাণিজ্য (বিক্রয়)/পুনঃ পিচি-১ (৩য় আক্রান)/ তারিখঃ ২৩/৪/২০০২ইং

সাগাঃ/মিল নং-১/০১-০২

উপ-মহাব্যবস্থাপক, আমিন টেক্সটাইলস্ লিঃ, যোগেশ্বর, চট্টগ্রাম কর্তৃক আমিন টেক্সটাইলস্ লিঃ (মিল নং-১) এর সার্ভিস চার্জ ভিত্তিতে পাটির নিজস্ব অর্থায়নে কাচা তুলা সরবরাহ পূর্বক উপাদিত ১০০% সূতা উত্তোলনের নিমিত্তে (২ই) বৎসরের জন্য সার্ভিস চার্জ পাটি নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে পাইকারী লাইসেন্সধারী, আর্থিক সম্ভলভাসম্পন্ন ও মিল পরিচালনায় অভিজ্ঞ সূতা ব্যবসায়ীদের নিকট হইতে নির্দিষ্ট সিডিউলে বর্ণিত শর্তসূচীমূলক দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাইতেছে। শর্ত সম্বলিত দরপত্র প্রতিসেট ৫০০/- (পাঁচশত) টাকা (অফারতযোগ্য) মূল্যে বিটিএমসি'র প্রধান কার্যালয়ের হিসাব বিভাগ, বিটিএমসি ভবন, ৭-৯, কাওরান বাজার বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা, ঢাকা; বিটিএমসি লিয়াঙ্কো অফিস, ৭৯, অম্মাবাদ বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা, চট্টগ্রাম ও মিলের হিসাব বিভাগ হইতে আগামী ৮/৫/২০০২ইং পর্যন্ত অফিস চলাকালীন ক্রয় করা যাইবে। দরপত্র আগামী ৯/৫/২০০২ইং তারিখ দুপুর ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত (১) বত্র মন্ত্রণালয়ের যুগ্ম সচিব (প্রশাসন), বাংলাদেশ সচিবালয়, ভবন নং-৬ (২২ তলা), কক্ষ নং-১১০৭, শাখা-৫, ঢাকাতে; (২) বিটিএমসি'র প্রধান কার্যালয়ের বাণিজ্যিক বিভাগে, (৩) বিটিএমসি লিয়াঙ্কো অফিস, চট্টগ্রাম ও (৪) মিলের বাণিজ্যিক বিভাগে রক্ষিত টেন্ডার ব্যস্তে গ্রহণ করা হইবে এবং একই দিন/তারিখে বর্ণিত স্থানসমূহে যুগ্মপত্রাবে ১২.১০ মিঃ এ দরদাতাদের উপস্থিতিতে যদি কেহ থাকেন) খোলা হইবে। দরপত্রদাতাদের সিডিউল ক্রয়ের রশিদ এবং আমিন টেক্সটাইলস্ লিঃ, মিল নং-১ এর অনুকূলে যে কোন সিডিউল ব্যাংক হইতে চট্টগ্রামে আদায়যোগ্য ডিবি/পে-অর্ডার আকারে ১৫.০০ (পনের) লক্ষ টাকা জামানত হিসাবে দরপত্রের সমিতি জমা দিতে হইবে। কোন দরপত্রদাতা সিডিউলে বর্ণিত কোন শর্ত পালনে ব্যর্থ হইলে উক্ত দরপত্র বিবেচিত হইবে না এবং কোন শর্তসূত্র দরপত্র গ্রহণ করা হইবে না। কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন বা সকল দরপত্র গ্রহণ কিংবা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

মোঃ মতাজ উদ্দিন
উপ-মহাব্যবস্থাপক
আমিন টেক্সটাইলস্ লিঃ
যোগেশ্বর, চট্টগ্রাম।

জিডি-৩২৮

Nearly 56pc support PM's proposal on portraits: Survey

BSS, Dhaka

About 55.92 per cent people of the country have supported Prime Minister Khaleda Zia's proposal to display the portraits of two national leaders -- Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and Ziaur Rahman -- and the incumbent prime minister in government offices and Bangladesh missions abroad, according to a recent survey.

Khaleda made the proposal in her winding-up speech in the last session of the Jatiya Sangsad on April 10.

The survey was conducted by the Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha in four divisional headquarters of Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi and Khulna.

The survey was conducted on random sampling where majority of people welcomed the PM's proposal as a move to dispel the controversy between the two main contending political parties -- the ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and the opposition Awami League.

The past Awami League government had made it obligatory by passing a law in Parliament to display the portrait of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in all government, semi-government and autonomous offices and Bangladesh missions abroad.

After assuming power following the massive victory of the four-party alliance in the October 1 general elections last year, Khaleda advised the people, particularly her partymen, not to show disrespect to any photo-

Minister for reforms in education curriculum

BSS, Dhaka

Education Minister Dr M Osman Faruk yesterday laid emphasis on bringing reforms to country's education curriculum and ensuring quality education in classrooms to prevent adoption of unfair means in the public examinations.

"There is no alternative to quality education in the classrooms to reduce cheating in the public examinations," he said while speaking at a seminar on cheating organised by the education ministry here.

State Minister for Education ANM Ehsanul Huq Milon and Deputy Minister for Education Abdus Salam Pintu attended the seminar as special guests.

Presided over by Education Secretary Mohammad Shahidul Alam, the seminar was attended by Director General (DG) of Secondary and Higher Education Abdur Rashid, DG, National Education Management Academy

Yunus Ali Dewan, Chairman of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education Board Prof. Mohammad Junaid, Prof. Hafiza Khatun of Lalmaia College and representatives from guardians and teachers also spoke at the seminar.

He called upon all concerned including the teachers, guardians and the members of the civil society to come forward in resisting unfair means in the public examinations.

Body recovered

UNB, Dhaka

Police recovered the body of an unidentified youth, aged about 30 years, from a jheel in city's East Rampura area yesterday morning.

The body, with several injury marks, was sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for autopsy.

Meanwhile, a labourer, Abdul Mannan, 35, succumbed to his injuries at the National Heart Institute Tuesday midnight.

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