



The century-old railway station building in Chittagong.

GP to restore century-old Ctg railway station

GrameenPhone is going to restore the exterior of the century-old historic Chittagong Old Railway Station Building to its original architectural design, says a press release.

The old railway station was built in 1896 when the headquarters of the Assam-Bengal Railway was based in the port city of Chittagong. Located at Station Road, it is one of the three oldest buildings in Chittagong along with the Old Court Building in Kotwali and the Central Railway Building.

An agreement on the restoration project was signed between GrameenPhone and Bangladesh Railway at the Rail Bhavan on July 31. Aftabuddin Ahmed, Chief Traffic Manager of BR, and A M M Yahya, Director of the External Coordination and Legal Department of GrameenPhone, signed the agreement on behalf of their respective organisations.

Syed Rezaul Hayat, Secretary of the Ministry of Communications, was present as special guest on the occasion. Ola Ree, Managing Director of GrameenPhone, Ataur Rahman, Director General of BR, A K M Rezaul Karim, General Manager (East) of BR, Khalid Hasan, Director of the Personnel and

Organisation Division of GP, and Syed Yamin Bakht, Additional General Manager of the Information Department of GP, were also present on the occasion.

"The Old Railway Station Building used to be one of the most beautiful buildings in Chittagong. But now it is an eyesore. Let us try to restore it to its original glory," said Syed Rezaul Hayat. "I am pleased that GrameenPhone has taken up this restoration project. It should stand out in all its old glory."

The restoration project will provide a new lease of life to the Old Railway Station Building as it was virtually abandoned after the New Railway Station was opened in Chittagong in 1996. The restoration work is expected to be completed by June 2003.

"The Chittagong Old Railway Station Building is a historic landmark of the port city. We will restore the exterior of the building as per the original architectural design, which the people of Chittagong have desired for long. GrameenPhone is undertaking the restoration project as part of its social commitment," said Ola Ree. "This GrameenPhone initiative is also a reflection of the long-term

mutually beneficial relationship between BR and GP."

The Director General of BR also appreciated the GrameenPhone's effort. "I must appreciate the attempt being made to restore the century-old Chittagong Railway Station Building. I thank the people involved in this effort. I hope our relationship with GrameenPhone will be further strengthened. We want to be very useful partner of GrameenPhone in the future," he said.

Confce on 'Future of Muslim World'

Prof Dr Abul Hasan M Sadeq, Vice-Chancellor of Asian University of Bangladesh (AUB), will present a paper at the international conference on 'Future of the Muslim World in the Present Century' in Jordan, says a press release.

The title of his paper is 'Technology Revolution and the Future of Muslim World in the Present Century'.

Prof Sadeq leaves for Jordan today to attend the conference organised by the Royal Foundation of Jordan.

Lean means longer life: Study

AP, Washington

Science has known for 70 years that lab mice and rats live longer if they eat less food. Now, for the first time, researchers have evidence that the same may be true for people.

In a study appearing Friday in the journal Science, George S. Roth and colleagues at the National Institute on Ageing say they have preliminary evidence that biological markers that help rodents live much longer than normal may have the same effect on humans.

Even if the evidence proves to be correct — which is not certain — it is unknown how much longer people might live.

The biological markers — lower temperature, lower insulin levels and a steady level of a steroid hormone called DHEAS — all occur in restricted-diet rodents that live about 40 percent longer than other rodents on a normal diet, Roth said. The same biological markers have now been found in men who are living longest in a continuing study in Baltimore on human ageing.

"This means that the biological characteristics of animals that are on calorie-restricted diets seem to apply to longevity in people," Roth said.

But Roth cautioned that the results should be considered "preliminary" and that nobody should start starving in hopes of living longer. Instead, he said, the study gives only tantalising hints that are worthy of further investigation about helping people to extend life.

Other experts said the study offers new hope about science some day finding ways to slow ageing and extend life.

"The study doesn't absolutely prove anything, but it suggests that the same mechanisms that operate in calorie-restricted ani-

mals can operate in humans," said Stephen R. Spindler, a human life span researcher at the University of California, Riverside. "It increases the likelihood that we will find pharmaceuticals that will mimic this effect."

Roth and his co-authors drew their preliminary conclusions from the combination of studies on ageing rodents, a 15-year study on ageing monkeys, and the continuing project called the Baltimore Longitudinal Study of Ageing, which follows the life span of people.

The monkey study, conducted at the National Institute of Ageing, is designed to test the longevity effects of calorie restriction on a subhuman primate that is closer biological relative to humans than are rodents.

The study started in 1987, but Roth said that since Rhesus monkeys can live for 25 years, it may take four or five years more before the results are final. Statistically, at least half of the monkeys will have to complete their normal life span before the data is considered significant, said Roth.

The same is true of the Baltimore study on ageing people.

But Roth said he and his team gathered preliminary conclusions by looking at early trends in the deaths of both the monkeys and the men. The researchers also divided men in the Baltimore study into two groups based on measurements of the key biomarkers — temperature, insulin and DHEAS levels — that were characteristic of the superaged lab rodents.

Roth said the men whose biomarkers were similar to those of the calorie-restricted, long-lived rodents were dying at a much slower rate than were men with other biomarker measurements.

Roth said none of the Baltimore study's men is known to be

on restricted diets, but clearly some are enjoying the same life span benefit that calorie restriction gave the laboratory animals. Researchers are not sure why.

"Whatever it is, they have those biological characteristics and they seem to live longer," said Roth. "It looks like that if you have any one of those markers, it is good for a couple of extra years."

In the monkeys, Roth said those on reduced feeding since the study started are dying at a rate that is about half that of the monkeys receiving a full food ration. He said all of the animals are fed the same nutritionally balanced food, but the longer-lived group gets 30 percent less.

Although the findings suggested that a diet restriction of 30 percent or 40 percent could extend life, Roth said, "This is not practical for most people" and could be unhealthy.

Instead, he said the ageing studies may lead to finding drugs that could mimic the effects and life span benefits of calorie restriction.

Spindler agreed, saying the study by Roth and his colleagues "gives us reason to hope."

Two truckers abducted in Rangamati

BSS, Rangamati

Two truck drivers were kidnapped from Kalabagan area under Kawkhali thana here Wednesday night, officials sources said.

Police said a gang of miscreants wearing army uniform stopped two Rangamati-bound trucks loaded with rice and fertiliser at about 11 pm and abducted the drivers.

The abducted drivers were identified as — Yar Mohammad, 45, and Mohammad Ilias, 40.

Police seized the trucks and lodged two cases in this connection. Mohammad Humayun Kabir, Superintendent of Police, Rangamati told the news agency that police and army started joint search for the abducted truck drivers.

Meanwhile, the four tribal youths, who were abducted by miscreants from Dijenpara area under Naniachar upazila on Tuesday last, were rescued yesterday, the SP added.

Time extended

The time of Group Ceramics Exhibition organised by Vertical (Studio Ceramics) has been extended, says a press release.

The exhibition will now continue till August 8 at Zainul Gallery of the Institute of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka.

The exhibition will remain open from 11.00am to 8.00pm daily, the release added.

Acid attack on woman in Gazipur

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Miscreants threw acid on a young woman at a village in Gazipur in the early hours of Thursday, injuring her seriously.

The victim — Najma Khatun, 22 — is now fighting for life at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) with burn injuries in different parts of her body except the face.

The incident took place at East Chandur village under Kaliakoir thana in Gazipur. The miscreants hiding near the house threw acid on her as she came out to respond to nature's call, her relatives told this correspondent at the hospital.

They alleged that one Ayub, a local BNP activist and his gang threw acid on Najma. Ayub had also threatened her earlier, they alleged.

Najma, daughter of one Jagdul Sheikh of Durgapur village in Gopalganj Sadar, came to the residence of her younger sister Bobita a week ago in search of a job, they said.

Najma was first admitted to a local clinic and later shifted to DMCH yesterday morning.

Home for elderly Registration begins

BSS, Dhaka

Registration of persons desiring to take admission to Begum Rokeya Prabeen Abash at Gulshan in the city began Thursday, according to a press release.

The Abash, home for elderly persons, has been set up at the initiative of Sakhawat Memorial Alumni Association to commemorate the contribution of Begum Rokeya to the education of Muslim women in this part of the subcontinent.

It will provide a secure, comfortable abode to the elderly people of society with facilities for medicare, library, entertainment and outing.

Interested persons have been advised to contact Dr N Fayeznnessa from 11 am to 1 pm at Karobi Apartment No. 301, Road 7, House 3, Gulshan 1, Phone 8829894.



The Victoria University of Melbourne held a seminar on 'Balance Scorecard' at its Dhaka Study Centre on July 31. Peter Demediuk (extreme left), Course Director, Masters of Business in Finance, Victoria University, Australia, was present as key speaker.

DHAKA TODAY

Memorial meeting
In observance of the 15th death anniversary of former president Justice Abu Sayeed Chowdhury, a memorial meeting and distribution of stipends among the meritorious students will be held. Chief advisor of the former caretaker government Justice Mohammad Habibur Rahman will attend the function as chief guest. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 4.30pm.

Rotary Dhaka Central
Regular weekly meeting of Rotary Club of Dhaka Central will be held. Venue: Dhaka Club. Time: 1.30pm.

Rally
Bangladesher Samajtantrik Dal will organise a rally and took out a procession in protest against the price-hike of essentials. Venue: Engineers' Institute. Time: 5.30pm.

Discussion
In observance of the founding anniversary of the Freedom Party, a discussion meeting will be held. Venue: Photo Journalists' Association auditorium. Time: 10.30am.

Roundtable
A roundtable on 'Establishment of Justice at the Local Level', organised by Nagorik Uddyog, will be held. Venue: YWCA auditorium, Iqbal Road. Time: 9.30am.

Meeting
An emergency meeting of Bangladesh Scouts will be held to chalk out its strategy for the prevention of Dengu fever in the capital with its Chief National Commissioner Md. Fazlur Rahman as chief guest. Venue: 70/1 Purana Palton Line. Time: 5.00pm.

BIP meeting
The presidium meeting of Bangladesh Jatiya Party will be held with its Chairman Md. Nazur Rahman as chief guest. Venue: 5/5, Block-A, Lalmeta. Time: 7.30pm.

Meeting
A meeting of Dhaka Taxes Bar Association will be held. Venue: National Board of Revenue Bhaban, Segunbagicha. Time: 12.30pm.

Oracle meeting
The monthly meeting of Bangladesh Oracle Users Group-BDOUG will be held. Venue: BRAC University auditorium. Time: 6.30pm.

Rotary North West
Regular weekly meeting of Rotary Club of Dhaka North West will be held. Venue: Dhaka Club. Time: 5.30pm.



The Dhaka Mariner Young's Club conducted an anti-dengue drive in Arambagh and Fakir Pool areas yesterday.

BCIC Tender Notice

বিস্তারিত পণ্য শিলায়নে জাতীয় অগ্রগতির প্রতীক

The Managing Director, Zia Fertilizer Company Limited, Ashuganj, Brahmanbaria invites sealed tender in two envelope system from Bangladesh's manufacturers for procurement of RUBBER CONVEYOR BELT against Tender No. CM/SHM/97/2002. Tender schedule may be purchased on payment of Tk. 400/- only from (i) ZFCL, Ashuganj, (ii) BCIC, 30-31, Dilkusha C/A., Dhaka and (iii) BCIC Branch Office, 6, Agrabad C/A., Chittagong. The tender should be dropped within 21.8.2002 up to 11.30 AM at ZFCL & BCIC Head Office and will be opened just after closing the tender. No tender document shall be sold on the date of opening.

BCIC- 78-24/7/2002
DFP-18976-27/7/02
G-1951

Khairul Anam
General Manager (Commercial)
for Managing Director

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Primary & Mass Education Department
ADB Aided Post-Literacy & Continuous Education for Human Development Project-2
Directorate of Non-Formal Education
232/1, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka

Notice No. 01/DNE/PLCE-2/Admin/Hired Office/02/2002/04 Dated: 27-7-2002

Urgent Notice to Hire House for Office

Wanted a house/flat measuring approximately 7000 (seven thousand) sqft on hire beside wide road in Mohammapur, Green Road, Dhanmondi, Gulshan, Banani, Mohakhali, Tejgaon, Nakhapara, Segunbagicha, Kakrail, Maghbazar, Malibag, Eskaton etc. areas of Dhaka metropolis for office of ADB Aided Post-Literacy & Continuous Education for Human Development Project under Primary & Mass Education Department. There should be parking lot facility for 6 transports at the house. Interested house owners are requested to deposit specific proposal with drawing of the house stating, location of house, measurement, number of rooms & other facilities and rate of rental or amount of total rental at the project office by 14 August 2002 within office hours & contact the undermentioned address.

AHM Shamsul Islam
Joint Secretary
Project Director
Post-Literacy & Continuous Education for Human Development Project-2

DFP-19138-29/7
G-1960

Head Quarters

Bangladesh Coast Guard
DOHS, Baridhara, Dhaka-1206

Tender No-CG/ME-108/1/1865

Tender Notice for Purchasing Paint

- Tenders are invited from bona fide manufacturers/agents/suppliers for supply on rate contract basis of Marine Quality Epoxy and Conventional paint for maintenance of different vessels of Bangladesh Coast Guard, for 2002-2003 financial year.
- Estimated cost of the purchasable paint is Taka-6,00,000/00. Tender schedule with necessary terms and conditions and detailed description of paint can be collected at prescribed Taka-550/00 (Taka five hundred fifty) only (non-refundable) from the Coast Guard Head Quarters, House No-511, Lane No-9, DOHS, Baridhara, Dhaka-1206, on any working day up to 21 August, 2002.
- Tenders will be received in the tender box kept at the Coast Guard Head Quarters, from 1000-1230 hours of 24 August, 2002, and will be opened on the same day at 1245 hours, in presence of the tenderers.
- Director General, Coast Guard Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any tender, or reject all the tenders, without assigning any reason.
- Tender should be submitted in three copies.
- Incomplete tender will be treated as cancelled.

Md Sakhawat Hossain
Commander BN
For Director General

DFP-18644-22/07
G-1933

Government of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer
PWD Division, Kushtia

Tender Notice

Tender Notice No : 26/2002-2003.
Name of work : Const. of bituminous carpeting road in front of Okil bar witness shade and Herring Bond Road in front of DC's Court Bldg, at Kushtia.

Estimated cost : Tk 6,24,030/00.
Earnest money : Tk. 12,481/00

Place of selling : Office of all the tender Executive Engineers under PWD Circle, Jessore.

Place of received of the tender : Office of all the Executive Engineers under PWD Circle, Jessore.

Last date of selling tender : 17.8.2002 during office hours.

Date of receiving and opening of the tender : Up to 12.00 Noon of 18.8.2002 & will be opened on the same day at 12.15 PM.

Eligibility of contractor/firm : Enlisted & valid building contractor/firm of PWD according to their financial capacity.

Executive Engineer
PWD Division

DFP-18787-23/7/02
G-1929

Re-Tender Notice

Headquarters Bangladesh Rifles Maintenance & Construction Wing

Sealed tenders are invited from bonafide firms/establishments with lift maintenance experience subject to the undermentioned terms & conditions for servicing & maintenance of one bed lift of BDR Hospital & one passenger lift of Headquarters BDR Administrative Building on yearly basis at Headquarters Bangladesh Rifles, Pilkhana, Dhaka :

Terms & conditions

- Past experience certificate on lift repair works at govt./semi-govt. organisation should be enclosed.
- Tenderer shall have to enclose certificate of electrical licence.
- Necessary documents/papers for import of lift spare parts should be enclosed.
- Up-to-date trade licence & income tax certificate should be enclosed.
- Should be VAT registered.
- The 02 (two) lifts can be inspected, if necessary, during office hours.
- Tender will be available at Tk 400/= per set from the office of the undersigned during office hours up to 12 August 2002.
- Tender will be received up to 12:00 hours of 13 August 2002 and opened on the same day in presence (if any) of the tenderers.
- No schedule will be sold on the date of opening tender.
- The firm whose rate may be accepted from among the tendering firms/establishments, shall be appointed on yearly contract basis.
- Earnest money at the rate 2½% on the tender quoted amount should be submitted in the form of Bank Draft in favour of Director General, Bangladesh Rifles.
- The contract may be renewed for the next year if at the end of the yearly contract the work performed is considered satisfactory.
- The authority reserves the right to accept/reject any tender without assigning any reason.
- The approximate cost under head servicing & maintenance of 2 lifts is Tk 60,000/= (sixty thousand) only.

Md. Arman Ali Bhuiyan
Major
for Director General

DFP-18955-27/7
G-1959