

SNAPS

Nat'l Coop Day observed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Shingair Upazila Cooperative Office yesterday organised a discussion meeting to observe the 33rd National Cooperative Day. Faiquzzaman, Upazila Nirbahi Officer of Shingair was present as chief guest while Khaibor Rahman, Assistant Commissioner (Land) was present as the special guest. Abdus Salam Chisty, Chairman, Upazila Central Cooperation Societies Association presided the discussion with Upazila Cooperative Officer Nasrin Karim delivering the introductory speech. A rally of cooperative workers, starting from office premises to Shingair Bazar, was also held.

Two poachers arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Two deer poachers were arrested by forest guards during combing operation in the Sundarbans on Wednesday. The arrested persons are Yusuf Kazi, 28, and Sultan Sharif, 32, hailing from Joymoni village in Mongla upazila, Bagerhat. Seven kilogram of venison, a pair and a skull of deer, a piece of its peeled-off skin and five traps were recovered from the poachers, said Alamgir Hossain, Swarnokhola Ranga Officer under the eastern wing of the Sundarbans Forest Division. The arrested poachers were sent to Bagerhat jail from court on Thursday afternoon. According to DFO, six pieces of peeled-off skin of deer, 16 poachers and 300 traps were recovered from the eastern wing of the Sundarbans Forest Division in last six months.

Pilferage of medicines worth Tk 1 cr from Satkhira Civil Surgeon's store detected

'Misappropriation' by storekeeper in connivance with other officials in 4 years

ABU AHMED, Satkhira

Pilferage of medicines worth Tk one crore from Satkhira Civil Surgeon's (CS) store was detected by the Bureau of Anti-Corruption (BAC) recently.

Storekeeper Shahnewaz Khan in connivance with other officials misappropriated the medicines from the store.

This was revealed through an investigation conducted by the BAC. Discrepancies in accounts of four years' issue registers of Satkhira Civil Surgeon's (CS) office and seven Upazila Health Complexes were detected by the investigation.

Inspector of the BAC, Wazed Ali Gazi investigated the matter after leakage of stories on medicine pilferage.

According to CS office sources, various kinds of medicine were

supplied to Satkhira Medicine Store from Dhaka Central Drug Store, Khulna Medical Sub-Depot and Bogra EDCL.

The store keeper of Satkhira Medicine Store received at least 3,01,000 Amoxicillin (250 mg) capsules from Bogra EDCL in 2000-'01 financial year.

From the lot, 1,57,000 capsules were supplied to seven upazila health complexes and the rest 1,44,000 capsules worth Tk 3,02,400 were misappropriated.

In the same financial year, 1,70,000 Cloxacillin (500 mg) capsules were also supplied to Satkhira store. Out of it only 28,000 capsules were distributed and the rest 1,42,000 capsules amounting to Tk 4,89,900 were defalcated by selling those in black markets.

Meanwhile, Amoxicillin (250 mg) capsules amounting to Tk

1,51,200 and Cloxacillin (500 mg) capsules amounting to Tk 7,77,995 were stolen from the store during 2001-'02 period.

Discrepancy in account of Amoxicillin (250 mg), Cloxacillin (500 mg) and Tetracycline capsules worth Tk 20 lakh were found in an audit of the financial year 2002-'03.

Besides Amoxicillin (250 mg) and Cloxacillin (500 mg) worth Tk 6,36,525 were also defalcated from the store in 2003-'04 financial year.

Satkhira store also received medicine worth over Tk 50 lakh from government stores and non-governmental organisations to distribute among flood-affected people in 2000. Most of it was sold in black markets.

X-ray films amounting to several lakhs of taka were also defalcated by selling those in black markets.

Push-in bid by BSF foiled

BSS, Rangpur

The Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) and Ansar-VDP along with villagers foiled a fresh bid by Border Security Force (BSF) of India to push nearly 24 Bangla-speaking Indian Muslims into Joypurhat on Thursday evening.

They built a stiff resistance and forced the BSF to take back their nationals from the border, frontier people and the BDR sources said.

The BSF troops of Mathurapur camp brought the Indian Muslims, mostly women and children, by a truck and a pick-up van to a barbed-wire fencing gate near the international boundary pillar no 277/425 opposite Korla BOP of BDR here at about 7:50pm.

The BSF troops put off headlights of their vehicles, opened the border gate and tried to push the victims forcefully at gun point into the Bangladesh territory.

The victims started crying when patrolling BDR jawans, Ansar-VDP members and people of Kalyanpur and adjoining villages created a stiff resistance against the BSF attempt.

The BDR also warned the BSF not to push-in their nationals. At last Indian border guards withdrew themselves with the victims at about 4 am on Friday morning. The victims are kept at a village about three kilometres inside India from the zero line, "competent sources said."

The BDR sources in Rangpur and Dinajpur sectors told that BDR troops are on alert and patrolling along the north-western borders to thwart any push-in attempt by the BSF troops.

"Ansar-VDP members and villagers are assisting the BDR along 1,590 km borders from Kurigram to Rajshahi," they added.

44 sick tea gardens to be developed

RAJAT KANTI GOSWAMI, Moulvibazar

A massive programme was undertaken to develop 44 sick tea gardens in the country.

A project profile was prepared in this regard by the Bangladesh Tea Board (BTB) at Srimongal here.

The Ministry of Commerce took this decision on principle in a meeting held at the ministry on October 17.

A five-year programme involving

Tk 15 crore 32 lakh was prepared to implement the programme, according to the Project Development Unit office sources.

Bangladesh Krishi Bank (BKB) will give Tk 9 crore 55 lakh 50 thousand as loan and ODA Revolving Fund of the BTB will give Tk 5 crore 23 lakh 63 thousand as subsidy.

According to the project profile, Tk 2 crore 70 lakh has been earmarked for factory development.

An amount of Tk 48 lakh 75 thousand

sand subsidy has been estimated for planting, Tk 54 lakh for field development, Tk 87 lakh 17 thousand for block-replanting and Tk 3 crore 97 lakh 23 thousand has been allocated for extension plantation while project implementation cost has been estimated at Tk 4 lakh 20 thousand.

The total allocation of money will be made step by step each year of the project period. According to this, Tk 99 lakh 33 thousand has been allocated for the year 2004, Tk 3 crore 14 lakh 79 thousand will be spent in 2005, Tk 3 crore 53 lakh 78 thousand will be spent in 2006, Tk 95 lakh 31 thousand will be spent in 2008.

The total quantity of land in the 44 sick tea gardens are 16,865 hectares. Only 5,528 hectares of land are now under plantation. Percentage of use of land in the sick tea gardens is only 32.77 per cent. Annual average rate of production in the tea gardens are 530 kg per hectre of land although the average rate of tea production per hectre is 1,220 kilogram of tea.

According to the Project Development Unit officials and tea plantation experts, with implementation of the programme, usage of land in plantation and production of tea will be increased. It will also help raise tea export.

Workshop on eye nursing in Patuakhali

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

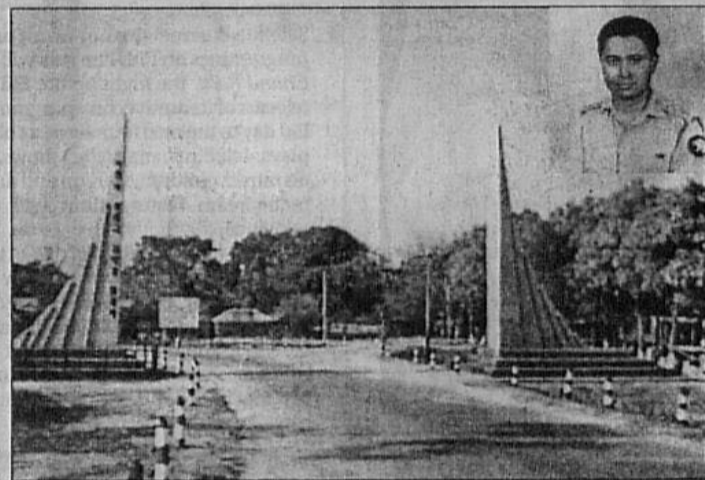
A daylong workshop on eye nursing was held at the BNSB Eye Hospital Auditorium here on Wednesday.

About 100 primary school teachers of 50 selected schools in Barisal division attended there.

Shahnuur Haq, vice-president of the hospital presided over the meeting while its secretary and municipality chairman Mostaq Ahmed was present as chief guest in the workshop.

Dr Naymun Nahar, consultant of the hospital and Dr Sujit Kumar Biswas, assistant surgeon of the hospital conducted the workshop. Among others, Golam Kibria, Joint Secretary and Taslim Sikder, Treasurer of the hospital addressed in the meeting.

They urged the school teachers and guardians of the children to take their child to hospital as soon as their eye diseases are identified.



A view of Shaheed Capt Bashar Gate in Nilphamari. An announcement was made on this year's Independence Day to develop the area into a beauty spot, but it is yet to be implemented. The gate was built in memory of valiant freedom fighter Captain R.A.M. Khairul Bashar (inset) who laid down his life during the Liberation War of Bangladesh in 1971.

Beauty spot around Capt Bashar Gate still a distant reality

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

A plan to develop the space around Shaheed Captain Bashar Gate into a beauty spot is yet to be implemented.

State Minister for Education and Minister-In-Charge of Nilphamari district ANM Ehsanul Haque Milon announced the plan in his address at the inaugural function of the memorial gate by Shaheed mother Rizia Ahmed here on the Independence Day (March 26) this year.

According to the plan, the surrounding area was supposed to be developed as a focal point for a lot of people, especially children and new generation youths who will come and sit here and think about our war of independence and the supreme sacrifices made by freedom fighters like Captain Bashar in liberating our motherland from the clutch of Pakistani occupation force.

For the purpose a serene environment was supposed to be created around the gate by creating a flower garden, mainly of red roses, with sitting arrangement for visitors. There will also be adequate lighting arrangement, according to the state

minister who promised installation of powerful lights so that the gate can be visible from a distant place.

"Bashar is one big star and people will throng around the gate," said octogenarian Shaheed mother Rizia Ahmed. "The place should be developed befittingly to walk around." Rizia said, "It is not a static memorial. Bashar was very much a hands-on person, and this memorial is the same concept," added Shaheed Janani (mother).

Bashar's admirers have opined that construction of a fountain will enhance the beauty of the memorial to a great extent. They draw the attention of the authorities concerned for fulfillment of their dreams.

People in the area suggested that the area should be well-protected, otherwise it will be damaged due to lack of proper care. Because of lack of guard and high fencing, dirty things are loitered all around the gate by some youngsters in the area. They cross the low fencing and climb on the lower part of the gate which poses a threat to it. Immediate measures should be taken to check the menace.

Pests invade aman crops in 3 dists

Artificial price-hike of pesticides worsens situation; block supervisors do not come to aid of farmers

JAHANGIR ALAM, back from Kishoreganj, Sherpur

NETRAKONA: Farmers in Netrakona, Kishoreganj and Sherpur face the menace of pests just after the devastating flood.

Pests are destroying aman sheaves which will be ready for harvest within 10 to 20 days, according to reports from different areas in the three districts.

Artificial price-hike of pesticides has aggravated the situation while block supervisors allegedly failed miserably to come to the aid of farmers.

In Nalitabari upazila, Sherpur, aman was transplanted on about 52,000 hectares of land. One third of the crop was destroyed by flood. Now the remaining portion of the crops is being attacked by pests, locally called Majra, Leda and Shikata. As a result paddy plants are being attacked with various diseases.

The situation is very miserable in Nikly, Karimganj and the adjoining upazilas in Kishoreganj, Atpara, Kendua, Purbadhola and Madan upazilas in Netrakona district.

Twenty-five per cent of aman crops on 2,46,000 hectares of land in

two districts were damaged by flood while the remaining portion is being destroyed by pests.

Two farmers, Aminur Rashid and Rahim Afroz of Jugirnagua village in Atpara upazila, Netrakona told this correspondent that pests already damaged about 50 per cent of their aman crops.

Rashid told this correspondent, he cultivated aman crops on four acres of land. Crops on one acre of land was damaged by flood and rest three acres are now being destroyed by pests.

Rahim said he applied pesticides worth several hundreds of taka on his crops as per advice of local agriculture officials but he did not get the desired result.

Enamul, another farmer of Baromary village in Nalitabari upazila, Sherpur told The Daily Star pests are destroying aman crops on his five acres of land which was supposed to be ready for harvest within a short period.

Farmers informed that agricultural block supervisors discouraged use of pesticides and stressed on integrated pest control management through use of lights at night and nets to destroy pests. But farm-

ers are applying pesticides in large quantity to control pests.

This has increased the demand of pesticides. Unscrupulous traders have created artificial scarcity of pesticides in local markets causing its abnormal price-hike.

Local farmers told this correspondent pesticides like Sin sifamer 400-M, 100-M and 50-M are being sold at between Tk 390, 110 and 60. Bifcot 400-M, 100-M and 50-M are being sold at between Tk 340, 150 and 80.

Adfin 400-M and 100-M are on sale at between Tk 310 and 80; Nain-100 at Tk 150, Tild- 125M at Tk 215 and 50M at Tk 110.

Some dishonest traders are also selling adulterated pesticides.

On contact, the Upazila Agriculture Officer of Atpara told that 18 block supervisors had been working in different areas to help farmers protect their crops.

But farmers told this correspondent they did not see any block supervisor in their areas during the last few days.

Invitation for Tenders

1	Ministry/division	Communication.
2	Agency	Roads & Highways Department.
3	Procuring entity name	Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Chandpur.
4	Procuring entity district	Chandpur.
5	invitation for tender no.	04/CRD/2004-2005.
6	Invitation Ref No	Add Chief Engineer, RHD, Comilla Zone, Comilla's Memo No. 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132 & 2133, Dt. 01-09-2004 & Superintending Engineer, RHD, Road Circle, Comilla's Memo No. 2140, 2141, 2143, 2144, Dt. 04-09-2004, 2290 Dt. 20-09-2004 & No. 2166 Dt. 08-09-2004
7	Source of funds	Public Fund.
8	Project name	As per package list.
9	Tender package no.	As per package list.
10	Tender package name	As per package list.
11	Tender last selling date	27-11-2004 up to office hours.
		Date Time
12	Tender closing date and time	28-11-2004 Up to 12:30PM
13	Tender opening date and time	28-11-2004 At 2:00 PM
14	Name & address of the office(s) for	Address
	(i) Selling tender document:	For package No. 1 A) Office of the Divisional Commissioner, Chittagong Division, Chittagong. B) Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Chandpur/Comilla/B'baria/Rangpur/Rajshahi/Barisal/Khulna/Chittagong/Planning & Design Division, Dhaka Zone, Dhaka/Planning Division-1, (P&D), Sarak Bhaban, Ramna, Dhaka. For Package No. 2 to 6 A) Office of the Divisional Commissioner, Chittagong Division, Chittagong. B) Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Chandpur/Comilla/B'baria/Planning Division-1, (P&D), Sarak Bhaban, Ramna, Dhaka.
	(ii) Receiving tender document:	A) Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Chandpur. B) Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Chandpur.
	(iii) Opening tender document	Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Chandpur.
15	Eligibility tenderer of	All tenderers regardless of whether enlisted or not enlisted with the employer & as per qualification mentioned in the tender documents.

Package No	Identification of Package	Location	Tender Security Amount (Tk)	Price of tender documents	Completion time in weeks/months
R-1/2004-2005	Construction of flexible pavement of Baburhat-Matlab-Pennai Road	at 22 nd (p), 23 rd , 24 th , 25 th & 26 th (p) km	Tk 4,75,000/00	Tk 5,000/00	4 months
R-2/2004-2005	Surfacing & protective work of Baburhat-Matlab-Pennai Road	At 7 th , 8 th (p), 9 th , 10 th , 11 th , 12 th (p), 13 th , 17 th & 19 th km	Tk 2,00,000/00	Tk 3,000/00	3 months
R-3/2004-2005	Carpeting seal coat & protective work of Hajiganj-Ramganj-Lakshimpur Road	At 3 rd & 4 th km	Tk 1,80,000/00	Tk 3,000/00	3 months
R-4/2004-2005	Earth work, protective work & surface drain for Chandpur bridge approach (Chandpur-Raipur Road)	At 26 th & 27 th km	Tk 1,85,000/00	Tk 3,000/00	3 months
R-5/2004-2005	Construction of Flexible pavement of Shariatpur-Chandpur Ferry Service Connecting Road	At 1 st (p), 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th (p) & 5 th (p) km	Tk 2,20,000/00	Tk 3,000/00	3 months
R-6/2004-2005	Manufacturing, supplying, painting & placing of reflecting sign signal board guide post, KM post etc.	Chandpur bridge approaches of Raipur-Chandpur Road	Tk 55,000/00	Tk 1000/00	1 1/2 months
17	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders without showing any reason.				

AQM Ekram Ullah
Executive Engineer, RHD
Road Division, Chandpur
Tel: 0841-63310
Fax: 0841-64300

DFP-26043-30/10/04
G-1045

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Executive Engineer
District: Sylhet

Memo No. LGED/XEN/Syl/05-285/2004/3754 Dated: 30/10/04

Rural Transport Improvement Project (RTIP)
Invitation for Bids (IFB)
IFB No. 35/2004-2005

- The People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a credit from the International Development Association (hereinafter referred to as the IDA) towards the cost of the Rural Transport Improvement Project (RTIP) and intends to apply part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the contract as mentioned in para-2.
- The Local Government Engineering Department (LGED), Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, represented by the Executive Engineer, LGED, District: Sylhet invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the construction and completion of the following works:

Name of the work	Contract package No	Bid security in Taka	Time for completion (days)	Price of bidding document (Tk)
Improvement of: i. Tajpur-Balagonj Road Chainage 0+000 to 14+489 +690 = 15.179 km ii. Doyameer-Dewan Bazar Road Chainage 0+000 to 2+010 = 2.010 km	Syl/UZR-22	22,00,000.00	550	12,000.00

- The bidders may inspect the bidding documents, obtain further information and clarification at the office of the Executive Engineer, LGED, District: Sylhet, Tel: 0821-716116 or the office of the Project Director, RDP-26, LGED Bhaban (Level-5), Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207, Tel: 9122435, 9122432. The bidder must be eligible in post qualification as specified in the bidding documents.
- A pre-bid conference will be held on 30.11.2004 at 12.00 noon in the office of the undersigned and all bidders are requested to attend the conference on time.
- A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by any eligible bidder from the office of the Project Director [Address: LGED Bhaban (Level-5), Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207] or the Deputy Commissioner, District: Sylhet or the Superintendent of Police, District: Sylhet or the Upazila Engineer, Upazila: Sadar, District: Sylhet or the undersigned on submission of a written application upon the payment of a non-refundable fee as mentioned in para-2 for each set in the form of Pay Order/Bank Draft from any scheduled bank in Bangladesh drawn in favour of the Executive Engineer, LGED, District: Sylhet. Additional sets of bidding documents may be purchased at the same price. The bidding documents will be available during office hours from 13.11.2004 to 11.12.2004. The bidder may wish to compete for one or more slices and/or package as a whole.
- All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of amount as mentioned in table, para-2 in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order/Demand Draft/Bank Guarantee drawn in favour of the Executive Engineer, LGED, District: Sylhet.
- All bids must be delivered to the office of the Deputy Commissioner, District: Sylhet or the Superintendent of Police, District: Sylhet or the Upazila Engineer, Upazila: Sadar, District: Sylhet or the undersigned on or before 1.00pm of 12.12.2004.
- Bids will be opened at 2.00pm on 12.12.2004 at the office of the undersigned in presence of the bidders or their authorised representatives who choose to attend.
- Bidders may deliver/submit bids personally or by registered mail or by courier services, etc. and bids must reach to the office(s) mentioned at para-7 on or before 1.00pm of 12.12.2004.
- A general information regarding the bidding will be available at the LGED Web Site (<http://www.lged.org>).
- The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids without assigning any reason.

DFP-26377-2/11/04
G-1061

Executive Engineer
LGED, Sylhet