



A three-day International Conference on Regional Cooperation on Transboundary Rivers: Impact of the Indian River-Linking Project began at the Osmani Memorial Auditorium in the city yesterday. Water Resources Minister Hafizuddin Ahmed and former finance minister AMA Abdul Muhith attended the conference as chief guest and special guest respectively. (Story on Page 1)

Fruits may protect children from leukaemia

REUTERS, New York

US investigators have found that children who ate oranges and bananas or drank orange juice most days of the week before age two were

significantly less likely than other children to be diagnosed with leukaemia before age 14. Previous research has suggested that diet may influence the risk of certain cancers, including

colorectal, prostate, lung and breast cancers.

Before age 15, more children become sick from leukaemia than from any other type of cancer. However, the effect of diet on the childhood risk of this cancer remains largely unknown.

To investigate, Dr Marilyn L. Kwan of the University of California, Berkeley, and her colleagues interviewed the mothers of 328 children diagnosed with leukaemia and the same number of cancer-free kids. Mothers reported what children ate before age two.

The leukaemia cases and cancer-free children breast-fed for a similar amount of time, and weighed roughly the same at birth.

The researchers found that children who ate oranges or bananas four to six times per week were around half as likely to develop leukaemia before age 14. Drinking orange juice between four and six

times per week reduced leukaemia risk by a comparable amount, the team reports in the American Journal of Epidemiology.

Kwan noted that cured meats such as lunch meats and hot dogs contain substances that can become carcinogenic in the stomach, and research in rats suggests that eating these meats in pregnancy may increase the risk of brain tumours in offspring.

However, in this report, eating hot dogs or lunch meats had no influence on leukaemia, perhaps because vitamin C, along with other vitamins contained in fruit, protect the body from the damage the meats can cause, Kwan suggested.

"Perhaps in our study population of California children, child's early consumption of oranges and orange juice, foods which contain large amounts of vitamin C, hindered carcinogenesis," she told Reuters Health.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Education Engineering Department
Shikha Bhaban, Bangladesh, Dhaka

Invitation for Re-Bids

Re-Bid Notice No. OM/74/Part-2/USU/SESIP/ED/04/61 Dated: 06.12.2004

- The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh (GOB) has received a loan [1690-BAN (SF)] from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) towards the cost for Secondary Education Sector Improvement Project (SESIP) and it is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payment under the contract for the Secondary Education Sector Improvement Project (SESIP). Bidding is open for the qualified contractor/firms who have qualification stated under clause of this notice.
- The Education Engineering Department invites sealed bids from eligible bidders under The Public Procurement Regulations-2003 for the following components of works:
Component-A: The construction and completion of civil, sanitary, electrical works and supply of furniture in the new secondary school at the selected under served union for group nos. 26, 44, 56&57.
Component-B: The vertical extension & site services work in the District Education Office for group no. 07.

The particulars of site and amount of earnest money under each group are enclosed in the bidding document and may be seen at the notice boards of the concerned office issuing the bidding documents.

- At the time of purchasing bidding documents, the bidders shall have to submit an application for purchasing bidding documents mentioning the component of works and group numbers with the following original papers under the components (A&B) which the applicant intends to buy including an attested copy of each document for verification. The original copies shall be returned after verification. A complete set of attested photocopy of the following documents as per particular component to be submitted with the bidding documents for further verification.
 - The latest financial statements which should include: (For Component-A&B).
 - Last one year's bank statement,
 - Latest audited balance sheet and
 - Credit facilities if any enjoyed by the firm.
 - A deployment list of technical personnel and construction equipment proposed for the group of work for which he intends to participate in the bid (For Component-A&B).
 - Updated income tax and VAT certificates (For Component-A&B).
 - A certificate of at least one building work successfully completed consisting of civil, sanitary and electrical works under any government organization whose value is not less than Tk 30.00 (thirty) lac only (For Component-A).
 - A certificate from the scheduled bank stating at least Tk 10 (ten) lac for component-A and Tk 5 (five) lac for component-B cash deposit in the company's bank account on the date of purchasing of bidding documents.
- Bidders may obtain bidding documents from the Office of the Chief Engineer, Education Engineering Department, Shikha Bhaban, 2nd Block, Dhaka or from the Office of the Executive Engineer, Education Engineering Department, concerned zone or from the Office of the Project Director, SESIP, Shikha Bhaban, 2nd Block, Dhaka or from the concerned section (section-12), Ministry of Education, Building No. 6, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka-1000. Bidders may obtain further information in connection of bids from the Office of the Chief Engineer, Education Engineering Department and the concerned zone for each group.
- A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by the interested eligible bidder on submission of a written application to the above offices up to 03.01.2005 during office hours on payment of Tk 1000.00 (one thousand) only in cash for each group of component-A&B. The cash paid for buying bidding document is non-refundable.
- All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of an amount as mentioned in the bidding document in the form of Pay Order/Bank Draft from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh in favour of "The Chief Engineer, Education Engineering Department, Shikha Bhaban, 2nd Block, Dhaka." The bid documents must be submitted to Office of the Chief Engineer, Education Engineering Department, Shikha Bhaban, 2nd Block, Dhaka up to 08/01/2005 before 14:00 hours. Bid will be opened immediately after closing hour of submission in the Office of the Chief Engineer in presence of bidder's representatives who choose to attend.
- The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Mohammad Zahidur Rahman
Chief Engineer
Education Engineering Department

DFP-29537/8-12/04
G-1240



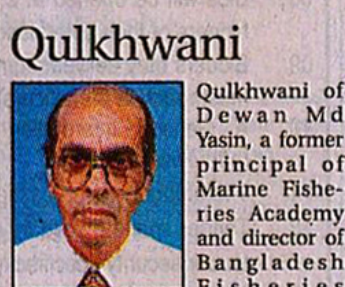
BNP and its front organisations took out a colourful procession in the city yesterday as part of the Victory Day celebration programmes.

Diarrhoea claims four in Naogaon

UNB, Naogaon

Four people died of diarrhoea and more than 100 others were affected by the disease in Dhamoirhat upazila of the district in last four days till Thursday.

The dead are Pochimol Bewa, 35, of Polashbari village, Monjuara



Development Corporation, will be held today.

A milad mahfil has been arranged at his Mohammadpur residence in the city after Asr prayers.

Md Yasin passed away due to a cardiac arrest on December 16 at the age of 60. He left behind his wife, two sons and a daughter.

Begum, 45, of Purba Chandpur village, Kinarbi Bewa, 50, of Joypur village and Gosiruddin, 45, of Malahar village.

Official sources said 118 medical teams have been working round the clock in the affected areas to combat the menace.

Over 5,000 people were affected by the disease in the district last month, Civil Surgeon's Office sources said.

Businessman stabbed to death

UNB, Narsingdi

A young businessman was killed by unidentified miscreants near Hajipur Bengal Rice Mills on the outskirts of the district town yesterday.

The victim was identified as Mobarak Hossain, 20, son of Manik Mia of Majhipara village.

Quoting the family members, police said the assailants stabbed Mobarak to death on his way to the local bazaar at about 4.00pm and left the body on a nearby playground.

DHAKA TODAY

Workshop

Friends in Village Development Bangladesh, in collaboration with Unesco, organises a workshop on 'Developing indicators for monitoring NFE/Literacy' with Unesco country representative Wolfgang Vollmar as chief guest. Venue: House-46, Road-18, Banani. Time: 12.00noon.

Discussion

Chirontan Bangladesh organises a discussion on the 'Role of media in protecting independence and sovereignty and establishing rule of law' with Communications Minister Nazmul Huda as chief guest. Venue: Grand Azad Hotel, Purana Paltan. Time: 3.30pm.

Publication ceremony

The publication ceremony of two books titled 'Mirsarair Ithas Samaj and Sangskriti' and 'Chattagramer Sufi Sadhak' by Ahmed Momtaz will be held with Law Minister Moudud Ahmed as chief guest. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 3.00pm.

ASB meeting

Monthly general meeting of the Asiatic Society of Bangladesh will be held. Venue: Seminar room of the society, 5 Old Secretariat Road. Time: 5.30pm.

Rotary Dhaka Central

Weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhaka Central will be held. Venue: Dhaka Club, Shahbagh. Time: 1.30pm.

Rotary Dhaka North West

Weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhaka North West will be held. Venue: Dhaka Club, Shahbagh. Time: 5.00pm.

Lions meeting

Monthly meeting of the Lions Club of Dhaka South will be held. Venue: Democracy Auditorium of Millennium University.

House-2, Road-76, Gulshan-2. Time: 6.00pm.

DHAKA TOMORROW

Premiere show

Centre for Asian Theatre organises the premiere show of Henrik Ibsen's renowned play titled 'Brand' directed by Kamaluddin Nili with Norwegian Ambassador Aud Lise Norheim as chief guest. Venue: Theatre Auditorium of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, Segun Bagicha. Time: 6.30pm.

Talk

Bangladesh Institute of Law and International Affairs organises a talk on 'Status of women's rights' with US Ambassador Harry K Thomas as keynote speaker. Venue: BILIA Auditorium, House-22, Road-7, Dhanmondi. Time: 11.00am.

Conference

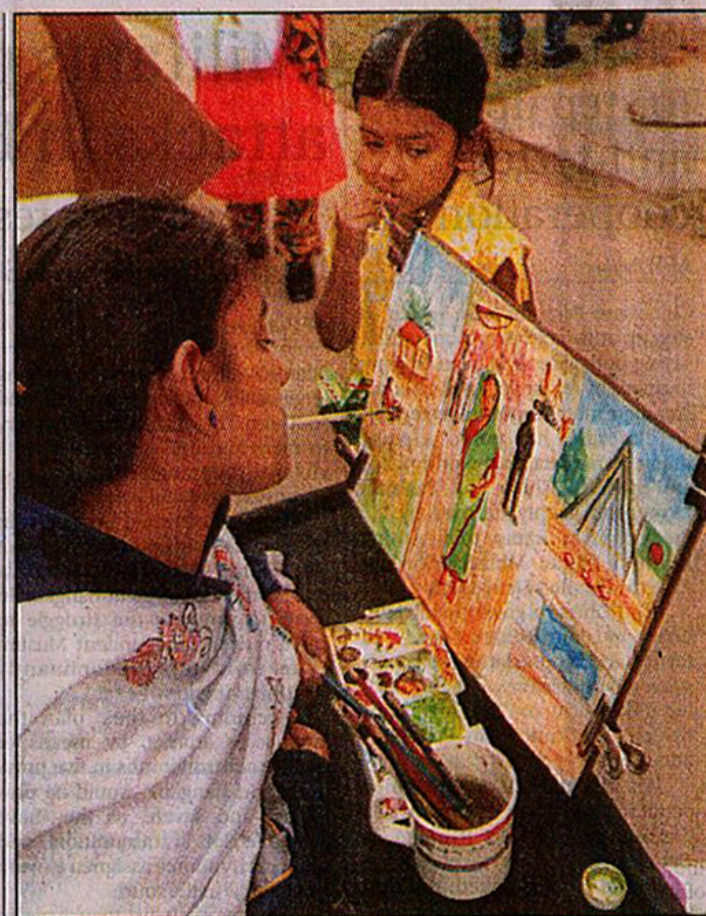
The concluding session of the International conference on Regional Cooperation on Transboundary Rivers will be held with LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan as chief guest. Venue: Osmani Memorial Hall. Time: 3.00pm.

HIV seminar

Bandhu Social Welfare Society, in collaboration with Bangladesh Manobadhikar Sangbadik Forum, will hold a seminar titled 'HIV/Aids in Bangladesh: Role of media and civil society'. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 1.30pm.

Workshop

A workshop on E-government in Bangladesh, organised jointly by The Millennium University of Dhaka and The Monash University of Australia, will be held with Science and ICT Minister Dr Abdul Moynen Khan in the chair. Venue: Democracy Auditorium of Millennium University.



Lovely Akhter, a physically challenged girl from the Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralysed in Savar, paints with her lips at a painting competition organised on the occasion of the Victory Day on the National Museum premises in the city yesterday.

WEATHER TODAY

No change in temperature

UNB, Dhaka

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry over the country during the next 12 hours till 6.00pm today. Night temperature may remain nearly unchanged during the period, Met Office said.

Yesterday's highest temperature of 30.5 degree Celsius was recorded at Cox's Bazar and the lowest of 12.6 degrees at Srimongal.

The sun sets in the capital at 5:15pm today and rises at 6:35am tomorrow.

The highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	28.0	16.9	77	70
Chittagong	30.2	17.5	74	52
Rajshahi	28.0	14.9	90	75
Khulna	28.0	16.4	90	73

পাওয়ার গ্রিড কোম্পানী অব বাংলাদেশ লিঃ POWER GRID COMPANY OF BANGLADESH LTD.

(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)

Red Crescent Concord Tower Tower, 17, Mohakhali C/A, 6th Floor, Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh.

No. 01/PGCB/Sec/04/3491

Date : December 15, 2004

INVITATION FOR BIDS

BANGLADESH NATIONAL LOAD DISPATCH CENTRE PROJECT
ADB LOAN NO. 2039-BAN

- The People's Republic of Bangladesh has applied for a loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) towards the cost of Power Sector Development Program (Loan 2039-BAN) and it is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the contract for Design Build and Turnkey Contract for Construction of the National Load Dispatch Centre (NLDC). Bidding is open to bidders from eligible source countries of the Asian Development Bank.
- The Power Grid Company of Bangladesh Limited ("the Employer") invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for design-build and completion of the National Load Dispatch Centre (NLDC) including the site survey, design, manufacture, transportation, supply, erection, testing and commissioning of Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA), Energy Management System (EMS) and Communications System, the NLDC building and minor civil works ("the Works"). It will include the installation of approximately 100 RTUs at substations and power stations and approximately 1,450 km of fibre optic cable on HV transmission lines throughout Bangladesh. The Bid Document shall require that the Bidders meet the following minimum experience and capability requirements:
 - To have successfully project managed and executed at least three (3) similar turnkey projects of a similar nature and complexity within the last 10 fiscal years, incorporating SCADA, EMS, RTUs and communications systems for a power utility; each project with a value of at least USD10M. At least one of these projects will have been executed outside the bidders own country;
 - To have successfully executed, including design, assembly, supply, installation and commissioning, at least three (3) communications projects of a similar scope, nature and complexity incorporating SDH communications networks on fibre optic cable based communications systems within the last 10 years. Each with a value of at least USD10M.
 - To have successfully installed and commissioned at least 500km of fibre optic cable under HV live line conditions within the last 10 fiscal years;
 - The bidders must have experience of interfacing Fibre Optic System with Substation equipment such as SCADA/RTUs, Protection Relays, Breakers & Protection Signaling Equipment. The bidders must have successfully installed and commissioned at least three (3) such projects where integration of Fibre Optic System with High Voltage Equipment in Substations of 220KV and above were required.
 - The bidders must have capabilities in integrating differing types of communication systems such as Power Line Carrier, Fibre Optic, Microwave, and Telephony in a Utility environment.
- Bidders may obtain further information from, and inspect and acquire the bidding documents, at :
The Power Grid Company of Bangladesh Limited
7th Floor Red Crescent Concord Tower
17 Mohakhali Commercial Area
Dhaka 1212, Bangladesh, Fax +880-2-9888501
- A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by interested eligible bidders on submission of a written application to the above office, and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of USD400.00 (United States Dollars Four Hundred only) or Tk. 24,000.00 (Taka Twenty Four Thousand only) in the form of a Pay Order/Demand Draft in favour of the Power Grid Company of Bangladesh Ltd.
- A two-stage, two-envelope bidding procedure will be adopted. Bidders are to submit simultaneously two sealed envelopes, on containing the technical proposal and one containing the price proposal. Initially only the technical proposals which are submitted by non-qualified bidders or which are not substantially responsive are rejected. The substantially responsive technical proposals which have been submitted by qualified bidders are discussed with the bidders and bidders are requested to adjust their proposals to reflect the changes and amendments requested by the Employer. The bidders are further requested to submit a supplementary price proposal which contains the changes in price resulting from the discussed changes in technical proposals. The original price proposal and the supplementary price proposal are opened simultaneously in public.
- All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of United States Dollars one million (USD 1,000,000) or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency, and must be delivered to:
The Company Secretary
The Power Grid Company of Bangladesh Limited
7th Floor Red Crescent Concord Tower
17, Mohakhali Commercial Area, Dhaka 1212, Bangladesh
at or before 10:00 am (BST) on 20 March 2005. The bid security must be included with the technical proposal.
- The technical proposals will be opened immediately thereafter in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
- The price proposals and supplementary price proposals, if provided, of the bidders whose technical proposal is considered responsive will be opened in the presence of the bidder's representatives who choose to attend at the time and date and at the address to be advised by the Employer after approval of the ADB of the evaluation of the technical proposals.
- In the comparison of bids, the employer will grant a margin of preference to eligible goods manufactured in the Employer's country in accordance with the procedures outline in the bidding documents.
- PGCB will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of bids including costs and expenses related to visits to the sites of installation of the Works.

(Mohammed Salim)
Company Secretary