

SNAPS

Fake Rab member arrested

BSS, Rajshahi

Police on Saturday arrested a fake member of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) at Panchandar village in Tanor upazila. According to police, Osman Gani, 28, son of Israfil Hossain of Kazpara village in Godagari upazila identified himself as a Rab member and demanded Tk 5,000 from a Ward Commissioner of Mundmale Pourasabha, Ejarul Islam. On suspicion, local people gave Osman Gani a good beating. He confessed he was a van-puller.

30 hurt in clash over paddy harvest

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

At least 30 persons were injured, 10 of them critically, in three separate clashes over aman harvest on Saturday. According to villagers, the clash ensued when followers of Joymal Abedeen group were cutting aman paddy on a dispute land at Kartik Pasha village in Durki upazila. Their rivals and followers of Abu Musa group attacked them.

Phensidyl smugglers nabbed

A CORRESPONDENT, Madaripur

Police chased two Phensidyl traders and arrested them from a river recently. The arrested smugglers are Arun, 29, and Tarek Sheikh, 23. They were carrying Phensidyl by a car from Jessore to Dhaka. When they reached Kaorakalli fariyath at Shibchar upazila, police wanted to search their vehicle. At once they started running and finally jumped into the Padma. Police chased and arrested them and recovered 380 bottles of Phensidyl from their car.

Rab intervention sought to stop drug trade

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Seven ward commissions of Mongla Pourasabha have demanded immediate intervention of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) to stop drug trade. In a statement issued on Saturday, the ward commissioners expressed their grave concern over rampant sale of drugs at 50 spots in the port area and Mongla township and rise in drug addicts.

The ward commissioners blamed police for open sale of drugs at Mongla.

Food procurement drive faces setback

Farmers selling foodgrain in open markets due to higher price in Gaibandha, Satkhira

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Food procurement drive faces setback in Gaibandha and Satkhira districts due to higher prices of paddy and rice in local markets in comparison with the official procurement rates.

Our Gaibandha Correspondent reports: The Food Department is yet to collect aman paddy and rice due to higher prices of foodgrains in local markets.

At present paddy is being sold in markets above Tk 30 to 40 per maund than the government rate. Rice is being sold above Tk 100 to 125 per maund than the official rate.

According to the District Food Controller's Office, the target of paddy procurement drive has been fixed at 1,704 metric tons while that

of rice at 3,713 metric tons. Ten procurement centres have been established in the entire district for the purpose.

The drive began on November 25 and will continue till February 28. The government has fixed the procurement rate of paddy at Tk 344 per maund and that of rice at Tk 524 per maund.

While visiting the markets in a few remote areas in the district, this correspondent found that paddy was being sold at between Tk 375 to 380 per maund and rice at Tk 640.

Our Satkhira Correspondent reports: Poor official rate fixed for food procurement drive is the main reason behind its failure.

The government has fixed the price at Tk 1,310 per quintal rice and at Tk 860 per quintal paddy. But rice is being sold

at between Tk 1,550 to 1,700 per quintal and paddy is being sold at between Tk 950 to 1,000 in open markets.

According to sources in the Food Department, the government has set a target to procure 1,473 metric tonnes of rice and 1,808 metric tonnes of paddy from nine purchasing centres set up in the district.

There are only 2,107 metric tonnes of rice and 41 metric tonnes of wheat in nine food godowns, according to sources.

The agents failed to collect single grain so far since beginning of the drive on November 25 last year. The drive will end on February 28.

Meanwhile, several projects taken under the Test Relief (TR) and Food for Works schemes remained suspended due to lack of foodgrains in government godowns.



PHOTO: AKM MOHSIN
Female farmers take care of saplings prior to tea plantation at Rawshapur village in Panchagarh district. Many tea gardens were established here recently.

UNPLANNED SAND LIFTING

Meghna erosion takes a serious turn in B'baria

OUR CORRESPONDENT, B'baria

Meghna erosion at Charlapang village in Nabinagar upazila (UZ) has been intensified in last 10 days.

This is because of unplanned sand lifting from the river.

According to villagers, the river devoured 120 houses including trees.

Although river erosion is a regular feature in the area, yet it has taken a serious turn this season, according to a villager named Abdur Rahman. 'Erosion victims are living under open sky in the shivering winter season,' he told The Daily Star.

West Nabinagar Union Parishad (UP) Chairman Golam Kibria told this correspondent he visited the affected area and appealed to the higher authorities for relief to the needy. 'Erosion victims should be rehabilitated,' he said.



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Notice For Enlistment

Applications are invited for the enlistment of suppliers from the bonafide importers of foreign books and journals, suppliers of local books for Jahangirnagar University Library.

Application forms may be obtained from the undersigned and should reach him by 2:00 PM on or before 10 February, 2005 alongwith the copies of the following valid documents (current).

1. Trade Licence.
2. Indent Registration Certificate.
3. Current Income Tax Clearance Certificate.
4. Evidences of importing books, journals/periodicals as subscribing agent. Any other documents that may support the applicants may be submitted.
5. Papers relating to ownership of the firm.

The University authority reserves the right to accept or reject any application without showing any reason whatsoever.

Teacher-in-charge



MODERNISATION OF ISLAMIC FOUNDATION PRINTING PRESS (REVISED)

ISLAMIC FOUNDATION BANGLADESH
Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207

Ref: IF Press/4978/1/2003-04/385

Dated: 03-01-2005

Invitation for International Tender

Modernisation of Islamic Foundation Printing Press Project (Revised) invites International Tender in 02 (two) envelope system (one for technical and one for financial) for the supply installation, testing and commissioning of following machine from the bonafide manufacturer, their principal or their authorised agents as per specification, terms and conditions given in the prescribed tender documents.

Particulars of Tender

Sl No	Description	Cost of tender document (non-refundable)	Earnest money (refundable)	Last date of sale of tender documents, time & date of receiving & dropping of tender, time & date of opening the tender
1.	Heavy duty Sheet-fed Bi-Color Convertible Perfector Offset Press	Tk 4000/- (four thousand)	Tk 5,10,000/- (five lac ten thousand)	Last date for sale of tender 19-02-2005, receiving/ dropping 10.00 hrs to 12.00 hrs on 23-02-2005, tender opening at 2.00pm on 23-02-2005
2.	Sheet-fed Bi-Color Offset Press	Tk 3000/- (three thousand)	Tk 4,20,000/- (four lac twenty thousand)	-do-
3.	Demai Bi-Color Convertible Perfecting Offset Press	Tk 2,000/- (two thousand)	Tk 2,94,000/- (two lac ninety-four thousand)	-do-
4.	Knife Grinder	Tk 1,000/- (one thousand)	Tk 38,000/- (thirty-eight thousand)	-do-
5.	Hot Stamping	Tk 1,000/- (one thousand)	Tk 45,900/- (forty-five thousand nine hundred)	-do-

Complete set of tender documents may be purchased on submission of application by any tenderer on payment of cost of documents from the following addresses on all working days during office hours.

The tender documents will be available at the following offices:

- (a) Sr Asst Secretary (Org), Ministry of Religious Affairs, Building No-6, Room No-1516, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.
- (b) Asst. Director (Finance), Mosque Based Children Education and Mass Literacy Project, Islamic Foundation Bangladesh, Baitul Mukarram, Dhaka-1000.
- (c) Secretary, Islamic Foundation, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207.

Tenderers shall have to submit mentioned earnest money. Said earnest money must be submitted in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order available in any local scheduled bank in favour of the 'Modernisation of Islamic Foundation Printing Press Project' along with their offers.

Tenders will be opened on the schedule date & time in presence of the tenderer/tenderers authorised representative (if any). Due to any unavoidable situation on the tender opening day, the same will be opened at the following working day at the same venue.

Any tenderer from abroad may also participate directly by post or through other services. In such case, the tender must reach at undersigned office within the schedule closing time.

No tender will be received through Fax or E-mail.

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

A M Badruddu

Secretary

Islamic Foundation Bangladesh
Phone # 9119952

Tk 1.20 cr poverty alleviation programme in Nilphamari

3,000 ultra-poor people change fate within four months of the ASA project launching

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

A major Non-governmental Organisation (NGO) has undertaken a praiseworthy initiative to make ultra-poor people self-reliant.

With the noble objective in view, ASA launched an ambitious 1.20 crore taka poverty alleviation project in the Monga (a feminine-like situation) affected areas in September last year.

Under the programme, 3,000 ultra-poor people in seven unions in the district have changed fate following receipt of 30 lakh taka soft loan, according to ASA team leader Khademul Islam. Islam told this while he was addressing a meeting to exchange opinion with journalists recently.

Availing of the opportunity, a few beneficiaries started small business while others opted for tailoring, paddy crushing, making fried rice, cakes and manufacturing handicrafts. They earn good profits by selling their products in markets.

The ASA team leader further disclosed that 90 lakh taka would be distributed among 8,000 ultra-poor people by June this year.

To monitor the programme, ASA President Shafiqul Huq Chowdhury and former health minister and Gono Swastho Project Co-ordinator Zafnullah Chowdhury visited the project intervention area recently.

During the visit, they went straightaway to the beneficiaries' cottages and became aware about the prospect of the project.

On conclusion of the visit, the ASA president declared his intention to further expand the project. He asked the field level officials to form a committee to find out ways to make the loan distribution programme more dynamic and easy. He directed the officials to submit reports of their findings within 15 days.

Finally, he announced a plan to implement a long-term self-employment programme to combat Monga in the affected areas in near future.



PHOTO: STAR
ASA president Shafiqul Huq Chowdhury, extreme right, along with former health minister and Gono Swastho Project Co-ordinator Zafnullah Chowdhury, extreme left, talking with two ultra-poor female beneficiaries of the poverty alleviation project of ASA. They visited the Monga-affected Babrijhar village in Sadar upazila, Nilphamari recently.

Invitation for Tender
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

1	Agency	Dhaka WASA.			
2	Procuring entity name	Executive Engineer, Sewer (C & D), Division-2.			
3	Invitation for	<p>A. Rehabilitation of 300 mm dia PVC sewer at Eskaton Garden Road by Lane (navy house) Job No. S-475/02.</p> <p>B. Rehabilitation of 300 mm dia PVC sewer at Eskaton Garden Road by Lane, Job No. S-433/01.</p> <p>C. Construction & rehabilitation of 200, 300 mm dia PVC sewer at Rampura Kazi Nazrul Islam Road by Lane, Job No. S-538/04.</p> <p>D. Construction of 200, 300, 400 mm dia PVC sewer at Shahid Shahadat Road, East Rampura 1st Lane, Job No. S-520/03, Lot-1.</p> <p>E. Construction of 200, 300, 400 mm dia PVC sewer at Shahid Shahadat Road, East Rampura 1st Lane, Job No. S-520/03, Lot-2.</p>			
4	Invitation Ref No & Date	Memo No 666/S (C & D)-2, Date : 23/12/04			
KEY INFORMATION					
5	Procurement method	Restricted Tendering Method.			
FUNDING INFORMATION					
6	Budget and source of funds	GoB.			
PARTICULAR INFORMATION					
7	Project/programme name (if applicable)	Sewerage Expansion & Rehabilitation Project (SERP).			
8	Tender last selling date	17-1-05 4:00 PM			
9	Tender closing date and time	18-1-05 12:00 Noon			
10	Tender opening date and time	18-1-05 2:00 PM			
11	Name & address of the office(s)	Address			
	- Selling tender document	<p>1. Janata Bank, Kawran Bazar Corporate Branch/Fakirpul Branch/Mohammadpur Corporate Branch/Mirpur Section-1/Mohakhal Corporate Branch, Dhaka.</p> <p>2. Agrani Bank, WASA Branch, Dhaka.</p> <p>3. Uttara Bank, Kawran Bazar Branch, Dhaka.</p> <p>4. Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, Dhanmondi/Gulshan-1/Motijheel Branch, Dhaka.</p> <p>5. ONE Bank Limited, HRC Bhaban, 46, Karwan Bazar C/A, Dhaka.</p>			
	- Receiving tender document	Executive Engineer, Sewer (C & D), Division-2.			
	- Opening tender document	Executive Engineer, Sewer (C & D), Division-2.			
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER					
12	Eligibility of tenderer	All first class contractors of Dhaka WASA.			
13	Brief description of goods or works				
	Identification of lot	Location	Price of tender document (Tk)	Tender security amount (Tk)	Completion time in days
	Rehabilitation of 300 mm dia PVC sewer at Eskaton Garden Road by Lane from navy house, Job No. S-475/02.	Eskaton	1,000/-	33,000/-	21 (twenty one)
	Rehabilitation of 300 mm dia PVC sewer at Eskaton Garden Road by Lane, Job No. S-433/01.	Eskaton	1,000/-	55,000/-	-Do-
	Construction & rehabilitation of 200, 300 mm dia PVC sewer at Rampura				