

Life saving drugs scarce in Moulvibazar

A packet of Bardinal tablets sells at Tk 400-500 against Tk 24

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

An acute scarcity of some life saving drugs is prevailing in Moulvibazar markets, affecting treatment of patients.

Tablets and injections of Phenobarbiton, eye drops of Chlorophenicol and Vitamin-C tablet are in scarce. Some patients at different hospitals said they purchases the medicines at much higher prices.

Representatives of some medicine companies said production of the drugs has been curtailed due to rise in prices of their raw materials in local and international markets.

Patients and medicine store owners said smuggled Indian medicines of these groups are also being sold at higher prices.

According to doctors, tablets and injections of Phenobarbiton group are life saving drugs.

Sources said only two Bangladesh companies—Jayson Pharmaceuticals and Gaco Pharmaceuticals produce medi-

cines of Phenobarbiton group.

This correspondent during an investigation found that a pack of Bardinal (Phenobarbiton) tablets, manufactured by Gaco, is being sold at Tk 300 to Tk 500 against its price of Tk 24 only. The same medicine produced by Jayson under a different name is being sold at prices around 50 times higher.

This correspondent talked to a number of medicine store owners in the town. They included Abdul Hannan Babu, owner of Janat Medico; Azmal Ahmad Chaudhury, owner of Chaudhury Pharmacy; Subud Ranjan Deb, manager of Oushadhi Bitan and Sanjit Pal, manager of Usha Pharma.

They alleged that the companies are not supplying Phenobarbiton group medicines.

SM Farhad Uddin, regional sales manager of Gaco in Sylhet, also said these medicines are not being supplied to its Sylhet depot from Dhaka head office though these are on the product list of the company. Supply of Indian medicines is

unpredictable as most of those cross the border illegally, medicine store owners said.

They said eye drop of Chlorophenicol group and Vitamin-C tablets are also scarce as medicine companies supply only one or two boxes in a week.

"Vitamin-C tablets are very essential for operation patients", said doctor Gopesh Chandra Das in the town.

Local representatives of pharmaceutical companies said due to abnormal price hike of raw materials of Chlorophenicol and Vitamin-C tablets, these can not be produced as per needs.

This correspondent tried to contact Brigadier Abdul Matin, director of Drug Administration in Dhaka over phone. An employee who received the phone call said the drug administration has nothing to do if any company does not produce any particular medicine. He however said they can take action on written allegations if any medicine is sold at higher price in market.

No Durga Puja at Ratna Tea garden this year

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Laborers of Ratna Tea Garden in Goalbari in Juri upazila of Moulvibazar district have decided not to observe Durga Puja this year for to alleged poverty.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the tea garden 'Ponchayet' (association of labourers) yesterday.

Owners of the garden suspended all activities in the garden on December 21, 2004 due to an 'internal dispute', sources said.

Following agitation programmes by the labourers, the then deputy commissioner of Moulvibazar Md Younusur Rahman persuaded the owners to open it. The garden was reopened on June 27 last year. But after only seven days, the garden was closed again. Sources claimed that about 5,000 labourers staff are yet to get their arrears.

Management of the garden was not available as they had left the garden after its closure.

Voter listing begins today in Bandarban

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban

Work on preparation of voter identity (ID) card with photo will begin here today, official sources said.

Enumerators will start visiting houses in Bandarban Poursabha for collecting information, they said.

A colourful procession will be brought out in the town in the morning. Bandarban Deputy Commissioner (DC) Abdul Majid Shah Akanda will lead the procession. Administration officials hoped that both the indigenous community members and Bengalee settlers would take part in the procession.

In the meantime, 244 enumerators and 58 supervisors have been appointed for preparation of voter ID card. Selected computer operators were imparted 'data base' training under supervision of the army, officials said.

On completion of the first phase of work, the second phase of work will begin in six upazilas including Lama municipality, the DC said.

COMMUNITY POLICING LAUNCHED

Manikganj people vow to resist drugs

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

With initiation of community policing, the people of Manikganj have launched a campaign against drug use and vowed to make Manikganj a drug free district.

Manikganj Police Superintendent Imtiaz Ahmed on Monday inaugurated the 'community police' at West Dasheda village under Ward No 5 of Manikganj.

On this occasion, Manikganj municipality and district police administration jointly organised a function where around 500 people from all walks of life including teachers, lawyers, businessmen, students, sportsmen and NGO activists were present.

To run the programme, they formed a committee with Officer-in-Charge of Manikganj Sadar Police Station Yasin Ali and Prof Basudev Saha as convener and member secretary.

The use of drugs will be reduced if people help the police to arrest or rehabilitate the drug traders and peddlars, the speakers said at the programme.

The participants vowed to do their best to create awareness among people against drug use.

Assistant Superintendent of Police Iqbal Pathan, Manikganj Press Club Secretary Golam Sarwar Sanu, municipality commissioners AKM Hamidur Rashid Kajo, Roton Mojumder and Arshed Ali Biswas addressed the function presided over by Manikganj Municipality Chairman Sudev Saha.

3 cops sued in Satkhira for 'demanding bribe'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Three police officials including the officer-in-charge of Kaligonj police station Nur Islam were sued yesterday for allegedly implicating one person in false cases and torturing him as he declined to pay them Tk 50,000.

Sheikh Kamruzzaman alias Babla, son of Sheikh Abdus Sabur of Bazar Gram Kashempur village in Kaligonj upazila, filed the case with Satkhira District and Sessions Judge's court.

After hearing, the court asked magistrate Himayet Hossain to probe the allegation, court sources said.

The other accused are sub-inspectors Akkaj Ali and Zahangir Hossain of Kaligonj police station.

Babla in his complaint said he has been running a motor parts

shop, built long ago on a land leased from Road and Highways Department near Kaligonj bus stand.

On March 21, the three policemen went to his shop, demanded Tk 50,000 and threatened him of implicating him in a false case for noncompliance, Babla alleged.

Thereafter, a gang allegedly led by Romjan Ali and Abdul Gafoor forcibly occupied his leased land on April 14 but police did not take any action against them despite complaint as he refused to pay them their demanded money, he alleged.

On the same day, Kaligonj police station accepted a false case filed by Romjan Ali and Abdul Gafoor, he alleged.

On April 15, one Azizul Islam, son of Abdul Mannan of Ibrahimpur village in Ashulia

thana in Dhaka, filed another false case with Kaligonj thana accusing him in an incident in Savar, he alleged.

One Gopal Chandra Roy of Laxminathpur village in Kaligonj upazila also filed a false case against him with Kaligonj police station on June 10, Babla he alleged in the case.

Kaligonj police then arrested him from Satkhira town on July 11 and allegedly tortured him. He was treated at Sadar Hospital while in custody, he said.

On August 5, he was released on bail by a court and admitted to Khulna hospital. He filed the case after release from hospital.

On contact, OC of Kaligonj police station Nur Islam denied the allegation and said filing of the case is conspiracy against him as he is discharging duties properly.

Haluaghat OC suspended

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Haluaghat police station officer-in-charge (OC) Muksedul Momen has been suspended for alleged negligence in duty.

The police authorities suspended the OC last night after he was found guilty in an investigation conducted by the joint forces recently.

Newaz Ali and Kudrat Ali, two day labourers at Kailati village in Haluaghat upazila were injured critically in an attack by criminals on August 18 night. As condition of Newaz Ali deteriorated, he was being shifted to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital (MMCH) for treatment the next day. But on way to the hospital he succumbed to his injuries. He was buried without post-mortem.

Haluaghat OC visited the spot but he did not take any action or did not inform the matter to the higher authorities. Later, a team of joint forces conducted the investigation and found him guilty.

On contact, Mymensingh Superintendent of Police (SP) Md Rafiqul Islam confirmed the report.

ABUL HASANAT ABDULLAH

Special Tribunal sends 2 cases to Sessions Judge's court

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Two cases against Awami League leader and former chief whip Abul Hasanat Abdullah were transferred to Barisal District and Session Judge's court from the Divisional Special Tribunal here.

The cases relate to recovery of freedom fighter certificates, gold ornaments and money from his house in a raid on October 22, 2002 during anti-crime drive Operation Clean Heart.

Court sources said the tribunal was scheduled to frame charges yesterday and fix a date for delivery of verdict.

Judge Khandokar Kamruzzaman of Divisional Special Tribunal, after five days' hearing, transferred the cases to the district and sessions judge's court yesterday. Special public prosecutor Abdus Sattar and district public prosecutor Mirza Salauddin submitted depositions



before the special tribunal in the five days.

Court sources said the cases were sent to the district and sessions judge's court for 'further decision'. The cases were

Filed lodged under Section 5(2) of Anticorruption Act.

The cases were lodged after recovery of 355 blank certificates of freedom fighters, Tk 6, 13,275

and some gold ornaments from Abul Hasanat's residence on October 22, 2002.

Sub Inspector Borhan Reza, lodged the both cases with Barisal Kotwali police station as complainant. Inspector Zillur Rahman, the then officer-in-charge of the police station and investigation officer of the cases, submitted charge sheet against Hasanat on April 13 last year.

In the mean time, Hasanat obtained interim bail from Hig Court till submission of charge sheet. He did not appear before the court after submission of charge sheet.

Abul Hasanat also faces another case filed by Bahela Khatun, deputy director of Anti Corruption Commission, with Dhanmondi police station in Dhaka on September for allegedly concealing facts in his wealth statement, court sources said.

Prepare a correct voter list

EC Sakhawati urges polls officials in Barisal

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Election Commissioner Brig Gen (ret) M Sakhawati Hussein at a view exchange meeting yesterday urged polls officials to work sincerely to prepare a correct voter list.

He attended as chief guest at the concluding session of the three-day training programme of 943 enumerators selected for voter registration work in 30 wards of Barisal City Corporation area.

The work of voters' enumeration has become more important as it also connected with the preparation of national identity cards and performing this duty successfully would be considered as a great prestigious duty to the nation, he said at the function at Barisal Zila School.

Luthfunnahr on behalf of the trainees requested giving reasonable honorarium for their work and providing sufficient logistic supports to the enumerators.

In response the election com-



EC Sakhawati Hussein

missioner assured them of increasing the rate of honorarium from Tk 5 to Tk 6 for registration of a voter.

Under this programme, 30 assistant registration officers, 175 supervisors and 808 enumerators have been trained up for preparing voter lists and national identity cards in 30

wards of BCC, District Election Officer Maniruzzaman said.

This manpower also included additional 16 supervisors and 74 enumerators to remain as stand-by in case of any absence of regular manpower, he added.

Election officers of different districts and upazilas of Barisal division acted as the resource persons in the training programme.

Manjure Elahi, deputy commissioner of Barisal, presided over the concluding ceremony of the training programme and Lt Col Abu Sayeed Muhammad Ali, commander of district joint forces, Mehdi Hassan, chief executive officer of Barisal City Corporation, and Md Morizuzzaman, district election officer, attended the programme as special guests.

The enumerators will start door to door visit from October 4 to list names of citizens who would reach 18 years of age on January 18, 2008, sources said.

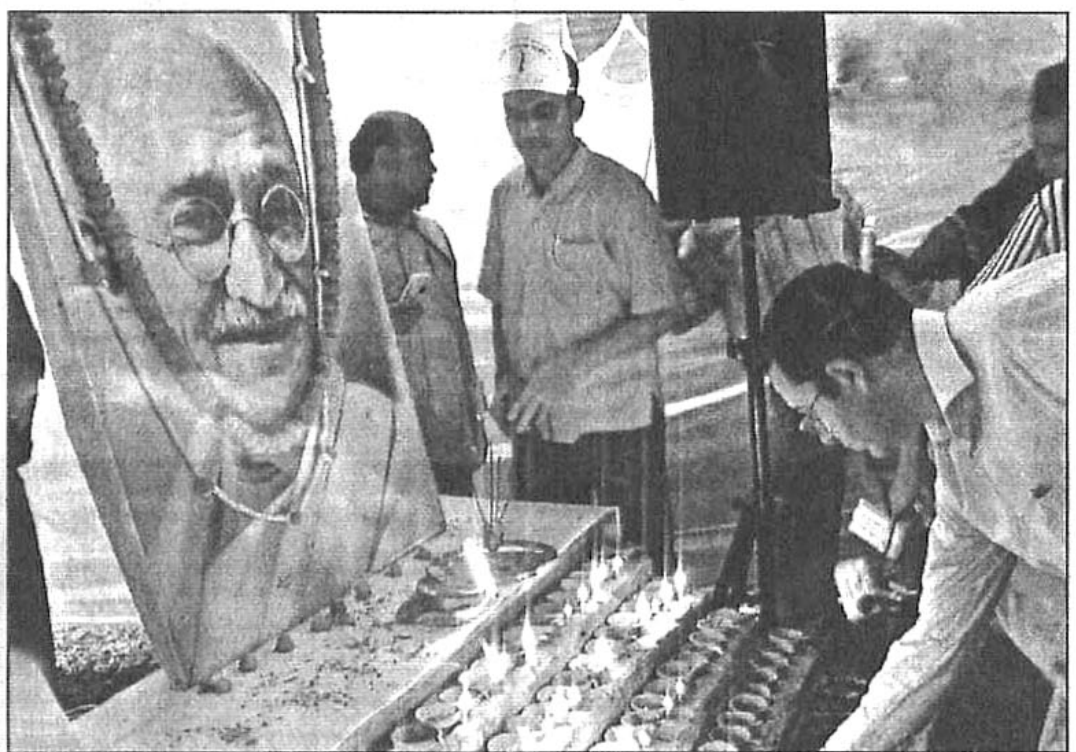


PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

The first International Nonviolence Day coinciding the 183rd birthday of Mahatma Gandhi was observed at Gandhi Ashram in Sonaimuri in Noakhali district yesterday.

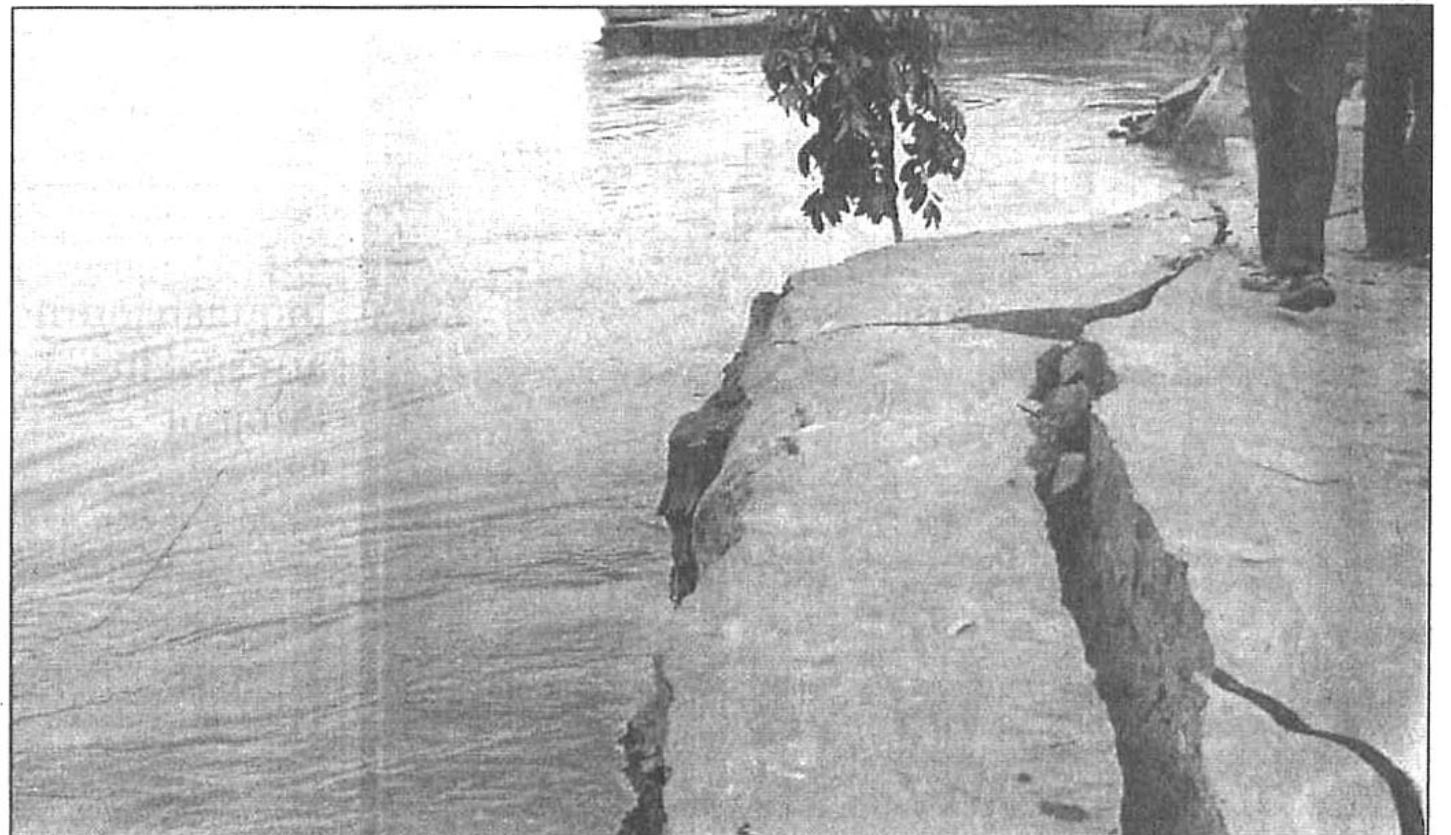


PHOTO: STAR

Erosion by the Padma threatens Sadipur village in Aliabad union of Faridpur Sadar upazila as the river has already devoured a number of houses. The photo was taken yesterday.

LPG bottling resumes at Kailashtila plant

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

The LPG bottling plant of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC) in Sylhet resumed operation Monday afternoon after a shut down for two weeks.

Supply of LPG began yesterday through Padma, Meghna and Jamuna oil companies of BPC in the region.

The bottling plant had to be kept shut as the LPG production unit—NGL Fractionation plant—at Kailashtila in Golapganj remained inoperative since September 15 for connecting a newly established plant with the old one located at a nearby location.

Shutting down of the plants deepened the ongoing crisis of LPG in Sylhet region.

Official sources said yesterday that the authorities are contemplating commissioning of the newly installed LPG plant sometime this month.

State-run Petrobangla's company-Rupantarita Praktik Gas Company Limited (RPGCL)—established the new NGL Fractionation Plant with a capacity of processing 110 tonnes of NGL and 110 tonnes of condensate a day.

It will help much in meeting the ever-increasing demand for LPG in future, the sources added.

138 Khulna jute workers opt for retirement

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

One hundred and thirty eight permanent workers of two state-owned jute mills at Khalishpur here have decided to go on voluntary retirement, sources in Patkal Sangram Parishad (PSP) said.

Of them, 92 workers of Platinum Jubilee Jute Mills and 46 workers of Crescent Jute Mills (CJM) submitted their applications to the project directors of the two mills expressing their desire to go on voluntary retirement, said PSP leader Abdur Rahman.

The workers decided to go on voluntary retirement fearing final shutdown of the mills in course of time, the PSP leader.

When contacted, project directors of the two state-owned jute mills confirmed the report saying necessary action will be taken in

this regard.

Meanwhile, the four-hour sit-in demonstration programme of over 200 workers of Alim Jute Mills continued yesterday. They were demanding for withdrawal of lay-off of the mills and payment of their dues.

Leaders of Khulna-Jessore regional committee of PSP demanded disbursement of arrear wages and other dues of workers of all state-owned jute mills in the region.

'Workers will have no other alternative but to resort to tougher agitation programme in Khulna-Jessore industrial belt if the Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation (BJMC) authorities failed to fulfil their demands immediately', said PSP convenor Sarder Motaharuddin.

সিলেট গ্যাস ফিল্ডস লিমিটেড (পেট্রোবাংলার একটি কোম্পানী) Sylhet Gas Fields Limited (A Company of Petrobangla)	
Tender No. SGFL/07-08/FP-54 Dated: 27-09-2007	
1. Ministry/Division	Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resource/Energy & Mineral Resource Division.
2. Agency	Sylhet Gas Fields Limited (A Company of Petrobangla).
3. Procuring entity name	Sylhet Gas Fields Limited (SGFL).
4. Procuring entity district	Sylhet.
5. Invitation Ref. No.	SGFL/07-08/FP-54 dated 27-09-2007.
6. Invitation for	Various materials for 2" Fuel Gas Line.
KEY INFORMATION	
7. Procurement method	Open tender method (International Competitive Bidding), Single stage one envelope system.
FUNDING INFORMATION	
8. Budget and source of funds	Own source of Sylhet Gas Fields Limited.
PARTICULAR INFORMATION	
9. Project name	N/A.
10. Tender publication date	N/A.
11. Tender last selling date	18-11-2007.
12. Place of tender selling	a) Sylhet Gas Fields Limited, PO Chiknagool, Sylhet-3152. b) Sylhet Gas Fields Limited, Dhaka Liaison Office, House-4/10, Iqbal Road, Block-A, Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207. c) Petrobangla, 3, Kawan Bazar C/A, Dhaka-1215. d) Titas Gas T&D Company Ltd, 105, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Kawan Bazar C/A, Dhaka-1215. e) Gas Transmission Company Ltd, Red Crescent Borak Tower (Level 4-6), 71-72, Old Elephant Road, Eskaton, Dhaka-1000. f) Bangladesh Petroleum Exploration & Production Co Ltd, Shanjalal Tower, 80/A-B, Shiddeshwari, Malibagh, Dhaka-1217.
13. Date & time for selling of tender document	The tender document will be available from 04-10-2007 to 18-11-2007 within office hours on all working days.
14. Tender closing date & time	19-11-2007 and 12:00 hrs (BST).
15. Tender opening date & time	19-11-2007 and 12:15 hrs (BST).
16. Place of tender receiving & opening	a) Sylhet Gas Fields Limited, P.O. Chiknagool, Sylhet-3152. b) Sylhet Gas Fields Limited, Dhaka Liaison Office, House-4/10, Iqbal Road, Block-A, Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207.
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER	
17. Eligibility of bidder	Reputed manufacturer(s) or their authorised representatives/contractor(s)/firm(s) from all countries except Israel are eligible to participate in the bidding. Likewise the offered materials should be of origin of any country other than Israel. The bidder other than manufacturer must have minimum 5 years experience in supplying of similar material other than its own country and the manufacturer or producer of similar material & must have minimum 5 years sales record for similar material other than its own country.
18. Brief description of goods	Various materials for 2" Fuel Gas Line.
19. Price of tender document	Tk 2,000.00 or US\$ 30.00 (non-refundable).
20. Address of the official inviting tender	Managing Director, Sylhet Gas Fields Limited, P.O. Chiknagool, Sylhet-3152, Bangladesh. Attn: Deputy General Manager (Procurement), Phone No. 880-821-2871735 (Ext. 372).
21. Special instruction	a) Bid must remain valid for 90 days from the date of closing of the tender. b) Bidders shall furnish with the bid an acceptable bid security bond in the form of Demand Draft/Pay Order/Bank Guarantee issued by a scheduled bank in Bangladesh or Bank Guarantee issued by any reputed foreign bank duly endorsed with full obligation and liability by a scheduled bank of Bangladesh in the format provided in the tender document amounting to Taka 40,000.00 or US\$ 570.00 or GBP 300.00 or euro 450.00 with full obligations & liabilities. c) The bid bond must remain valid for one hundred and twenty (120) days from the date of closing of the tender. d) The scope of supply, terms of supply and information require to be furnished by the bidders, etc are included in the tender document. e) Bid(s) submitted after the deadline for receiving of bids will be rejected and returned unopened to the bidder. f) The bid must not be submitted by Fax or E-mail. Photocopy of faxes or e-mailed bid from the principal will not be accepted. g) This tender notice will also be available at Petrobangla Website @ www.Petrobangla.org.bd and SGFL website: www.sgfl.org.bd.
22. Sylhet Gas Fields Limited reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids or annul the bidding process without assigning any reason.	
GD-3385	Deputy General Manager (Procurement)