



Letters will only be considered if they carry the writer's full name, address and telephone number (if any). The identity of the writers will be protected. Letters must be limited to 300 words. All letters will be subject to editing.

# Price hike

The exorbitant price hike of daily essentials, particularly coarse and other varieties of rice, edible oil, flour, lentils, and potatoes has put the common and fixed income groups in a very difficult situation. The prices of these commodities are very high and are showing an upward trend every day, it

is now beyond the purchasing capacity of many common people. They have been facing acute hardship and, therefore, are trying to manage with less intake of food or avoiding some of these commodities in daily meals and even many daily wage earners have reduced their daily meals from three to

two. On January 2, on my way to office, I saw a long queue of thousands of people of various classes waiting to purchase rice in a BRD sponsored shop designated for selling daily essential commodities. It clearly indicates that the market prices of rice and other consumable commodities have gone very high.

Over the last couple of years, it has been the practice to blame the international market for price increase of these commodities and during the last BNP led government unscrupulous syndicate leaders behind the scene were mostly responsible for spiralling of prices. This practice is still in place and it is also a fact that prices of some commodities have gone up in the international market and, consequently, this will have some adverse impact on the local market.

The present government took some very bold steps in many fields to bring discipline, justice, fairness and transparency. All those drives taken by the government were welcomed and applauded by the common people with high hopes. But if the government fails to control the prices, then all

those attempts and achievements will be questioned. Even the good initiative of the government to curb corruption would be fruitless as many government and other services holders will not be in a position to meet the basic needs with their legitimate earnings.

In many fields the government has been able to draw the support of the common people and it has been making its best endeavours to address all these issues that would put the country on a strong footing by maintaining law and order, good governance, transparency in business deals and ensuring fair justice in all respects. But failure to maintain a reasonable price of essentials would neutralise all these good initiatives.

The government should immediately activate the TCB or encourage private importers and make all-out efforts to create a salutary environment where from the small traders to large business establishments would come forward to tackle the situation in a pragmatic manner, taking into consideration the gravity of the market situation.

Nasar, One-mail

There should be clear-cut goals and objectives of each level of education. Also programmes should be developed in culture and linguistics to expose expatriate children to Bangladesh.

M. Shahidullah, USA

## Gold and oil prices

A London based back page report on the rising gold prices (Jan.02) was published in a local English daily. However, I believe that it is not relevant to the vast majority of Bangladeshis; except for the very few well-to-do, who are planning weddings this winter. In addition, the same daily, in its bottom left hand column in the same page, writes about the Paris based report of oil reaching 100 dollars a barrel soon this year! More miseries are in store for bus passengers and those

who use oil driven transports. It will be no wonder if our electric power, water and fertiliser prices follow suit!

These two news items, are blessings in disguise for the CTG to raise prices and explain away the high prices of rice, wheat, edible oils, sugar or for that matter; even kitchen vegetables, eggs, fish and meat!

They are all going to follow gold and oil; dutifully in a disciplined manner, much to the happiness of our CTG, which has left the market mechanism to free uncontrolled market pricing in a free-for-all manner!

Meanwhile, our Wise Men of Dhaka (so called Budhijibis) want us to sit on our coal or extract it in the most expensive, uneconomic and dangerous manner with deep shaft mines only! We the

"Buddhijibis" can only watch their unrealistic "Tamasha" in astonishment and frustration! After all, they have all the knowledge; be it politics, arts, literature, songs or plays or atomic reactor, coal mining, they know it all-- these "Shabjantas"!

In their opinion, we cannot go for open-pit mining, the less expensive, and easier way with no danger of fire or explosions! But our honourable and wise "Budhijibis" do not care; after all, they will not go down the deep shafts to axe out the coal in a cramped and dangerous environment; with so many "Buddhijibis" available at the proverbial "dime a dozen"!

May Allah spare us from these "Shabjantas" and their misplaced wisdom and superfluous concern, for all times!

S.A. Mansoor  
Retired Engineer, Dhaka



## China-Japan ties

Yasuo Fukuda's recent visit to China is a reflection of the fact that Fukuda looks forward to warming ties with China and the fact that by improving relations with China, he also looks to bolster his own position (in effect, this would help him overshadow some of the domestic problems he has been facing, to a certain extent). While his predecessor looked to adopt a more tougher stance towards China, Fukuda is certainly not following suit. And this was clearly reflected by the refusal of his government to meet the Dalai Lama in November last year (when he visited Japan). The excuse given by his govt. was that Dalai Lama was not "important" enough and hence they could avoid meeting him.

Hu Jintao (the Chinese President) also knows that he might be invited to the G-8 summit

which is most likely to be held in early July in northern Japan. And in the summit, climate change is likely to top the agenda. Hence that would mean that China is likely to face criticism due to its poor pollution record. So China will be looking forward to Fukuda to at least provide them with some support (more precisely "friendly" covering). On his recent visit (to China), Fukuda's baseball playing with the Chinese premier and his repeated statements centring on improving co-operation between

Japan and China is also a manifestation of his intentions.

And the warm welcome he was given by the Chinese only made things much clearer.

Wasif Wahed  
Old DOHS, Dhaka

## Release of top leaders

The year 2008, the long awaited

election year for the people of Bangladesh has dawned with a lot of hopes and aspirations. The EC (Election Commission) has declared a roadmap for a free, fair and credible election this year. This is the first time the people of Bangladesh are expecting to cast their votes with voter ID bearing their photos. There is lot of enthusiasm among public to enlist their names as voters. As the election time is nearing the voices of some of the leaders of certain political parties are becoming louder every day. They are dreaming that their old days are coming back and the people are always with them as they were and ready to sacrifice their lives for them as they did in the past, as if they (these leaders) have not done any wrong to the people and were not involved in any anti-people activities. They are trying to make the people believe

that all the actions against them by the present CTG are vindictive. They are clean and "fuler mato pabitra"--the slogan their supporters used for them.

They have started threatening the government to bring their captured leaders out of jail through agitation. But people do not want to go back to the pre-1/11 days. They know these leaders. They will not believe their cheap promises any more, except those who were beneficiaries of their misrule.

I believe people will not join in any agitation to release those leaders who were arrested on charges of corruption. The arrested leaders should come out clean through the judicial process. They must prove their innocence before the court and not through street agitation any more. Nothing was moving in this country without greasing the hands of those leaders. Even for-

eign investment was blocked by these leaders and high government officials.

Shafiqul Islam  
One-mail

## Good idea

It was interesting to learn about the conference organised by Scholars Bangladesh at Hotel Sheraton, Dhaka. Some of the private universities in Bangladesh have already started doing that. Fulbright exchange programme is an excellent vehicle to set examples of this kind of projects. I was fortunate to spend six months at the BRAC school of public health on a Fulbright fellowship. I found the following areas in which we can learn and contribute: course design and implementation, web based learning, teaching, research and development, networking, etc.

## Invitation for Re-Tenders

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Local Government Rural Development & Cooperatives/Local Government Division.
2	Agency	Dhaka Water Supply & Sewerage Authority (DWASA).
3	Procuring entity name	Managing Director, Dhaka WASA.
4	Procuring entity code	Not applicable.
5	Procuring entity district	Not applicable.
6	Invitation for	Supply of Computer Hardware, Development of Customised Inventory Software & Rearrangement of Goods in Pagla Store.
7	Invitation Ref. No.	01/2007-08.
8	Date	November 01, 2007.

<b>KEY INFORMATION</b>	
9	Procurement method

<b>FUNDING INFORMATION</b>	
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10	Budget and source of funds	Dhaka WASA Revenue Fund.
11	Development partners (if applicable)	Not applicable.

<b>PARTICULAR INFORMATION</b>	
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12	Tender publication date	12-01-2008.
13	Tender last selling date	27-01-2008.
14	Tender closing date and time	28-01-2008 at 02:00pm.
15	Tender opening date	28-01-2008 at 02:05pm.
16	Name & address of the office(s)	Computer Center, Dhaka WASA, 98, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215.

<b>INFORMATION FOR TENDERER</b>	
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17	Eligibility of tenderer	Tenderer must have experience of supplying minimum 02(two) number of Development of Customised Software within last five years.
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18	Brief description of goods or works	Supply of Computer Hardware, Development of Customised Inventory Control Software for Store Management & Rearrangement of Goods in Pagla.
19	Brief description of related services	Installation of Computer Hardware & Related Equipments and Establishment of Networking.

20	Price of tender document (Tk)	Taka 500.00 (five hundred) only.
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Lot No.	Identification of lot	Location	Tender security amount (Taka)	Completion time (day)
1	Single	Pagla Store, DWASA	30,000/- (thirty thousand) only	120 (one hundred & twenty)

<b>PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS</b>	
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22	Name of official inviting tender	Md. Jafin Hossain.
23	Designation of official inviting tender	Senior System Analyst.
24	Address of official inviting tender	Computer Center, Dhaka WASA, 98, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215.

25	Contact details of official inviting tender	☎ 9113092 E-mail: ssadwasa@yahoo.com
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26	i. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.	
	ii. Procurement will be conducted under PPR 2003.	

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GD-184	

## Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer  
Education Engineering Department  
Savar Zone, Savar, Dhaka

## Invitation for Tender

1.	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Education.
2.	Agency	Education Engineering Department.
3.	Procuring entity name	Executive Engineer, Education Engineering Department, Savar Zone.
4.	Procuring entity code	Not used at present.
5.	Procuring entity district	Dhaka & Manikganj.
6.	Invitation reference No.	Tender No.02/EED/Revenue/SZ/2007-2008.
7.	Date	08/01/08

<b># KEY INFORMATION</b>	
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8.	Procurement method	Open tendering method.
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<b># FUNDING INFORMATION</b>	
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9.	Budget and source of funds	Revenue head of allocation (GOB).
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<b># PARTICULAR INFORMATION</b>	
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10.	Project code	4931
11.	Project name	Revenue.
12.	Tender package/lot No.	02 (two).
13.	Tender publication date	10/01/08
14.	Tender last selling date	11/02/08
15.	Tender closing date and time	12/02/08 up to 1.00pm.
16.	Tender opening date and time	12/02/08 at 3.00pm.
17.	Name and address of the office(s)	

a)	Selling tender document (principal)	Executive Engineer, Education Engineering Department, Savar Zone, Savar, Dhaka.
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b)	Selling tender document (others)	i) Office of the Deputy Commissioner (DC), Dhaka & Manikganj. ii) Office of the Superintendent of Police, Dhaka & Manikganj. iii) Office of the Assistant Engineer, Education Engineering Department, Manikganj District.
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c)	Receiving tender document	Executive Engineer, Education Engineering Department, Savar Zone, Savar, Dhaka.
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d)	Opening tender document	Executive Engineer, Education Engineering Department, Savar Zone, Savar, Dhaka.
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<b># INFORMATION FOR TENDERER</b>	
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18.	Eligibility of tenderer	Enlisted contractors of Education Engineering Department and other government & autonomous bodies who fulfil the conditions of the tender documents are eligible.
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19.	Price of tender document (Tk.)	Tk. 400.00 (four hundred) (non-refundable).
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Lot No.	Name of work	Location	Tender security amount (Tk)	Completion time (month)
01	Construction of guard wall, retaining wall, including sinking & installation of deep tubewell at Jaypara Vocational Institute at Dohar Upazila, Dhaka	Dohar Upazila, Dhaka	10,000/- (ten thousand) only	60 days

02	Vertical extension (2nd floor) of Manikganj Technical School and College at Sadar Upazila, Manikganj	Sadar Upazila, Manikganj	27,000/- (twenty seven thousand) only	120 days
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<b># PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS</b>	
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21.	Name of official inviting tender	Syed Shahidur Rahman.
22.	Designation of official inviting tender	Executive Engineer.
23.	Address of official inviting tender	Education Engineering Department, Savar Zone, Savar.

24.	Contact details of official inviting tender	Tel. No. 7712535
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25.	Tender documents may be purchased by any tenderer from the offices mentioned above in Sl. 17 on payment of non-refundable amount as mentioned above in Sl. No. 19 for each set. Additional sets of tender documents may be purchased at the same price.		
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Tenders shall be valid for a period of 120 days from tender opening and all tenders must be accompanied by a tender security of amount as mentioned above in Sl. No. 20 in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order in favour of Executive Engineer, Education Engineering Department, Savar Zone, Savar, Dhaka.			
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The award of procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.			
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<b>Syed Shahidur Rahman</b> Executive Engineer Education Engineering Department Savar Zone, Savar			
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GD-171			
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## গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

নির্বাহী পরিচালকের কার্যালয়  
শিও-মাত্ বাস্তু ইনস্টিটিউট  
মাতুয়াইল, ঢাকা-১৩৬২

## দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

নং-শিমায়াই/প্রশাসন/উত্তর/২০০৭-০৮/১০৭২	তারিখঃ ০৭/০১/০৮ইং
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১	মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ	বাস্তু ও পরিবার কল্যাণ মন্ত্রণালয়।
২	সংগ্রাহক সত্তার নাম	শিও-মাত্ বাস্তু ইনস্টিটিউট।
৩	সংগ্রাহক সত্তার জেলার নাম	ঢাকা।

৪	দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নম্বর ও তারিখ	শিমায়াই/প্রশাসন/উত্তর/২০০৭-০৮/১০৭২ তারিখঃ ০৭/০১/০৮ইং
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৫	সংগ্রহ পদ্ধতি	খোলা দরপত্র।
৬	বাজেট ও তহবিলের উৎস	জিওবি।

৭	উন্নয়ন সহযোগী (প্রয়োজ্য ক্ষেত্রে)	নেই।
৮	দরপত্র বিক্রয় আরম্ভের তারিখ ও সময়	২৭/০১/২০০৮ইং (অফিস চলাকালীন সময়)।

৯	দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের সর্বশেষ তারিখ ও সময়	০৬/০২/২০০৮ইং (অফিস চলাকালীন সময়)।
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১০	দরপত্র দাখিলের সর্বশেষ তারিখ ও সময়	০৭/০২/২০০৮ইং, ১২:০০ ঘটিকায়।
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১১	দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	০৭/০২/২০০৮ইং, ১২:৩০ ঘটিকায়।
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১২	দরপত্র তফসীল বিক্রয়কারী অফিসের নাম ও ঠিকানা	শিও-মাত্ বাস্তু ইনস্টিটিউট, মাতুয়াইল, ঢাকা-১৩৬২।
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১৩	দরপত্র তফসীল গ্রহণকারী অফিসের নাম ও ঠিকানা	শিও-মাত্ বাস্তু ইনস্টিটিউট, মাতুয়াইল, ঢাকা-১৩৬২।
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১৪	দরপত্র তফসীল খোলার অফিসের নাম ও ঠিকানা	শিও-মাত্ বাস্তু ইনস্টিটিউট, মাতুয়াইল, ঢাকা-১৩৬২।
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১৫	দরপত্র দাতার ব্যোজা	(ক) বেধ ট্রেড লাইসেন্স (হালনাগাদ), টিন সনদপত্র, আয়কর সনদ (হালনাগাদ), ভাট সার্টিফিকেট, ব্যাংক বহুলতার সনদ (হালনাগাদ)। (খ) গত ৩ বছরে কোন সরকারি বা স্বায়ত্তশাসিত সংস্থায় একই পদে সংশ্লিষ্টভাবে সর্বস্বত্বের অভিজ্ঞতা (প্রত্যয়নপত্র দিতে হবে)। (গ) অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী দরপত্রের সিডিউলে উল্লেখ আছে।
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১৬	কাজ ও মালমালের বিস্তারিত বিবরণ	এম এস আর মপ-১, ২ ও ৩। কম্পিউটার সামগ্রী। কম্পিউটার ও অফিস সরঞ্জাম।
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১৭	প্রতিটি দরপত্রের সিডিউলের মূল্য টাকায়	নির্বাহী পরিচালক বরাবরে ৭৫০.০০ (সাতশত পঞ্চাশ) (অফিসের কার্যালয়) টাকায় পে-অর্ডার এর বিনিময়ে মূল্যে দরপত্র তফসীল পাওয়া যাবে।
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১৮	মালমালার সরবরাহের সময়সীমা	কার্যাদেশ জারির ৩০ দিনের মধ্যে।
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১৯	আর্নেস্টমানি টাকার পরিমাণ	দরপত্র তফসীল উল্লেখ করা হবে।
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২০	দরপত্র আহবানকারী	নির্বাহী পরিচালক, আইসিএমএইচ, মাতুয়াইল, ঢাকা-১৩৬২।
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২১	দরপত্র আহবানকারীর পদবী	নির্বাহী পরিচালক, আইসিএমএইচ, মাতুয়াইল, ঢাকা-১৩৬২।
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২২	দরপত্র আহবানকারীর ঠিকানা	নির্বাহী পরিচালক, আইসিএমএইচ, মাতুয়াইল, ঢাকা-১৩৬২।
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২৩	দরপত্র আহবানকারীর বিস্তারিত যোগাযোগের ঠিকানা	নির্বাহী পরিচালক, আইসিএমএইচ, মাতুয়াইল, ঢাকা-১৩৬২। ফোন: ৭৫৪২৬৭২, ৭৫৪২৬২০-৩, ফ্যাক্স: ৭৫৪২৬৭২।
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২৪	সংগ্রাহক সত্তা কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সম্পূর্ণরূপে সংরক্ষণ করে।	
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<b>অধ্যাপক আবদুল হান্নান</b> নির্বাহী পরিচালক শিও-মাত্ বাস্তু ইনস্টিটিউট	
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জিডি-২০২	
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