

# Empower women farmers to ensure food security

## Speakers tell South Asian women's conference

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Tangail*

Speakers at a conference yesterday said strengthening the position of women farmers through the combined efforts of all can help ensure protection of agriculture and food security as well as peace in family and society.

Politicians have to play a role while the governments should change their principals for the purpose, they said at South Asian conference on 'Women and

Biodiversity' at Hridaipur Bidyagarh at UBINIG at Delduar upazila in Tangail yesterday.

Narigrantha Prabartana and Nayakrishi Andolon in collaboration with GRAIN organised the women's conference to mark the International Women's Day.

There is a connection between increase in oppression and violence against women and food, water and environment condition, "the women representatives said at the conference.

Destruction of environment and overall agriculture condition brings natural calamity and leads to increased violence and women trafficking, they said.

Introducing the biodiversity-based agriculture management can help protect the variety of food production and its development to face food scarcity, they said.

Under false allurements, the corporate companies with the help of government are earning huge money by selling fertiliser, pesti-

cide etc, they said. These companies have no concern about food security as earning money is their only aim, they said, adding, "Women are being attacked with different complicated diseases due to use of pesticides."

In the first session yesterday, Farida Akhter, executive director of Narigrantha Prabartana and UBINIG and Salini Bhutani of GRAIN spoke on introduction of the thematic issues.

Rekha Tulachan and Ananta Pokhrel of Nepal, Nazma Sadeque and Nahid Kazmi of Pakistan, Sivagowry Manickasabapathy of Sri Lanka, Deblina Gupta and Sukla Dev Mitra of India, Tum Hping of Myanmar and Mahmuda Khatun Sheuly of Bangladesh took part in discussion on 'Country Overview of Biodiversity Situation and Women's Struggles'.

In the second session, Farida Akhter, Lucile Sircar and Khurshid Jahan spoke on 'Technologies and Women's Health'. Salini Bhutani of GRAIN and Rukmini Rao of SANGAT facilitated the first and the second session of the conference.

A total of 188 women (26 foreigners and 162 locals) delegates of India, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Myanmar and Bangladesh participated in the conference.

The conference that was inaugurated at the same venue on Monday afternoon, will conclude today.

On the occasion, a biodiversity fair has been arranged where local women farmers set 16 stalls of seeds, herbal trees, indigenous loom items, handicrafts and etc.



Women delegates visit 'biodiversity fair' at Ridaipur Bidyagarh of Ubinig in Delduar upazila in Tangail yesterday. Local women farmers arranged the fair on the occasion of the three-day South Asian conference on 'Women and Biodiversity'.

# 2 brothers die after taking stale rice

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Sirajganj*

Two brothers died and five others of a family fell ill after taking stale rice with water (popularly known pantabhat) at Par Jamirta village in Shahzadpur upazila of Sirajganj district yesterday.

The deceased are Al-Amin, 8, and his elder brother Abdul Mannan, 11, sons of Sorman Ali of Par Jamirta village.

They along with five others were taken to Shahzadpur Health Complex as they fell ill after taking stale rice on Monday night.

The two brothers died yesterday morning.

Condition of Jalna Khatun, 37, mother of the two deceased, their cousin Saleha Khatun, 16, and aunty Israt Ara, 34, is very critical, doctors said.

Their family sources said they took pantabhat as they are extremely poor.

# Satkhira settlement official sued for bribery

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Satkhira*

A bribery case was filed with the Chief Judicial Magistrate's Court at Satkhira yesterday against Sadar Upazila sub-assistant settlement officer Rabiul Islam and clerk Subhendu Kumar Ghosh.

After a long hearing Judge Ranu Biki Banu of the Chief Judicial Magistrate's Court ordered a judicial probe into the case.

Kazi Asadul Islam of village Mautala in Kaliganj upazila filed the case accusing the two for taking Tk 30,000 from him as bribe.

The complainant said he went to Sadar Upazila Settlement Office to take part in the hearing of a settlement case of his land on February 28.

The accused, Subhendu Kumar Ghosh and Rabiul Islam demanded Tk 30,000 from him saying that the judgment would be delivered in his favour, he alleged.

He gave Tk 30,000 to the accused at his office on February 29, he said.

Later the accused took Tk 60,000 from his opponent party as bribe and delivered the judgment in his favour, he said, adding that the accused threatened and drove him out of the office when he went to them to get back his money.

When contacted, Rabiul Islam and Subhendu Kumar Ghosh refuted the allegation.

The judgment was delivered as per law, they said.



Students of Rajshahi College stage a sit-in in front of the administrative building yesterday demanding withdrawal of additional fees charged for fourth year honours final examinations.

# Lawyers demand arrest of Patkelghata OC

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Satkhira*

Leaders and activists of the district unit of Bangladesh National Lawyers Association (BNLA) yesterday submitted a memorandum to Satkhira deputy commissioner (DC) demanding immediate arrest and exemplary punishment to killer officer-in-charge (OC) of Patkelghata police station.

Patkelghata OC Kazi Mizanur Rahman's wife Sabiha Akhter succumbed to her injuries on March 6. The injuries were inflicted by her husband on February 27.

BNLA leaders and activists alleged that the law enforcers failed to arrest the culprit for reasons unknown to them.

Earlier, a BNLA delegation led by local BNLA clinic lawyer Advocate Farida Akhter Banu visited the police station to know the causes which led to the killing.

This was followed by submission of the memorandum to Satkhira DC Md Kefayeturrahman at his office.

On receipt of the memorandum, the DC assured the lawyers of stern action after an investigation.

Among others, Advocate Shahnaz Parvin Mili, Advocate Hasna Hena, Adv Salma Akhter were present at the DC office during handing over of the memorandum.

Meanwhile, the victim's body was exhumed from Shahjahanpur graveyard in Dhaka on March 10. Its post-mortem was done at

Dhaka Medical College hospital (DMCH) yesterday.

The accused police officer absconded after burial of his wife at the graveyard on March 7, sources said.

Police recorded the case with Patkelghata police station accusing the OC on March 10.

# PBO system to alert people before calamity

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, *Khulna*

A Pilot Balloon Observator (PBO) system will be introduced here to alert people before natural calamity.

Work on the PBO project will begin next month under supervision of the Public Works Department (PWD), said Khulna Met Office officer-in-charge Md Amirul Azad. He said the system will help measure velocity of wind. It will be especially helpful in airport area, he said.

Early implementation of the project was felt soon after the November 15 cyclonic storm Sidr which claimed lives of a large number of people and destroying thousands of houses in the southwest-ern region.

Defence secretary visited Khulna Met office last month and asked PWD to begin the work next month, said Amirul Azad. He said the extent of damage in cyclonic storm will come down with introduction of PBO system.

# Sylhet Jubo League leader on 4-day remand

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, *Sylhet*

Sylhet Kotwali police yesterday took Sylhet district Jubo League chief, also a ward commissioner of the Sylhet City Corporation, Jagadish Chandra Das on a four-day remand.

Chief Judicial Magistrate Md Rafiqul Alam granted the remand when police prayed for a seven-day remand.

Early Sunday Rapid Action Battalion recovered one revolver, five bullets, two LGs and two cartridges from a ditch and a pond of the house of Jagadish, who during interrogation on Saturday evening said he had dumped the firearms into the pond of his house at the city's Akhaila Neharipara.

Rab handed him over to Sylhet Kotwali police on Sunday.

On Saturday morning, the joint forces picked him up from the voters' registration centre at Sylhet stadium.

Accused of extortion, land grabbing, hill cutting, vandalism and other crimes, Jagadish went into hiding after the declaration of emergency in January 11 last year.

He was earlier caught in cases for looting and land grabbing. He was also arrested when Operation Clean Heart was launched during the past BNP-led government.

# TETANUS DETECTED Operation at RMCH suspended

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Rangpur*

The Rangpur Medical College Hospital (RMCH) authorities suspended operation at the hospital for an indefinite period following detection of a patient's tetanus who underwent operation yesterday.

The surgical ward of RMCH has been closed sine die. The ward was evacuated in the morning after confirmation of tetanus by specialists.

Many patients already left the

hospital and others were shifted at Rangpur Contagious Diseases Hospital.

The patient who developed tetanus was identified as Hafizul Islam, 22. He was hospitalized at Ward No. 12.

When contacted, RMCH director Dr Sahadat Hossain Chowdhury admitted the fact saying all patients of the ward were released.

He said the surgical ward will reopen for patients soon after its fumigation.

# 'Name Rangpur University after Begum Rokeya'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Rangpur*

About 100 noted citizens of the country urged the chief advisor of caretaker government to name the officially proposed public university at Rangpur after Begum Rokeya, the emancipator of women, according to a message reached here yesterday.

In an appeal submitted to the chief advisor, they hailed the caretaker government for the noble gesture. Quoting part of a letter written by Begum Rokeya, the prayer said it was her long-

cherished dream in her lifetime. The entire nation will be able to show due respect to the noble lady if the public university is named after her.

Prominent among the signatories are Workers' Party leader Haider Akbar Khan Rano, former chief justice Mustafa Kamal, educationist Husna Banu Khanom, folk song exponent Mustafa Zaman Abbas, film director Soovas Dutt, cultural activist Dilara Zaman, film star cum social activist Ilias Kanchan, film artiste Probita Mitra and Ayesha Jafar who upheld the cause of Begum Rokeya during her lifetime.

# One gets life for killing wife

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Moulvibazar*

One person has been awarded life term for killing his wife and fined Tk 20 thousand, in default have to suffer one year rigorous imprisonment more.

Md Zahurul Haque, the District and Sessions Judge of Moulvibazar has delivered this judgment yesterday.

Peshker Miah of Sunakhali Mongalpur village under Duarabazar upazila in Sunamganj district, who created pressure on his wife Mohirun Akter Lutfa for Tk two lakh as dowry, came to Moulvibazar town with his wife and rented a room of Western Hotel using false names and address on May 21 in 2006, goes the prosecution.

On the same night, the hotel authorities found the dead body of the women while Peshker Miah had left the room, it added.

Following a murder case filed by Lutfa's brother, police arrested Peshker Miah and after investigation, submitted a charge sheet for killing his wife.

The judge delivered the verdict giving death sentence to Peshker Miah after examining all the relevant documents.

# PREVIOUS ENMITY Tk 10 lakh fish poisoned to death in Gopalganj

A CORRESPONDENT, *Gopalganj*

Fish worth about Tk 10 lakh of three enclosures owned by a fish trader were poisoned to death as a consequence to previous enmity at Damakair village in Sadar upazila last midnight.

Barun Kanti Biswas, owner of Demonath fish project, at the same village incurred the loss when he found that a large number of dead fish were floating in water of his enclosures that night. He said to police it was a consequence of previous enmity by his rivals.

# Fire burns papers at ASP's office

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, *Sylhet*

A fire gutted all the furniture, files and documents at the office and the residence of Assistant Superintendent of Police of Derai circle in Sunamganj district on Monday night.

With the help of locals, army personnel and police, fire fighters from Sunamganj brought the fire under control at about 1:00am.

The fire burnt important files of Derai Circle comprising five police stations, Sunamganj Superintendent of Police Shaiful Islam said. However, none was hurt in the incident.



Advocate Tanbir ul Islam Siddiqui, president of Change Makers Bangladesh, instructing participants at Nawab Faizunnesa Government High School as the organisation arranged a civic education programme for 'Institutionalising Democracy in Bangladesh' for 3,000 high school and madrasa students from Comilla and Sylhet districts.

Bangladesh Power Development Board Invitation for International Re-Tender					
1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources/Power Division.			
2	Agency	Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB).			
3	Procuring entity name	Director, Purchase, BPDB, Dhaka.			
4	Procuring entity code	Not used at present.			
5	Procuring entity district	Dhaka, Bangladesh.			
6	Invitation for	Procurement of Polyacrylamide for Ghorasal Thermal Power Station, BPDB, Palash, Narsingdi.			
7	Invitation Ref. No.	Pur-331/2007.			
8	Date	Date: 02-03-2008.			
KEY INFORMATION					
9	Procurement method.	Open tendering method.			
FUNDING INFORMATION					
10	Budget and source of funds	Revenue budget (cash foreign exchange allocation) of BPDB.			
11	Development partners (if applicable)	Not applicable.			
PARTICULAR INFORMATION					
12	Project/programme code (if applicable)	Not applicable.			
13	Project/programme name (if applicable)	Not applicable.			
14	Tender package No.	26 (FY 2007-2008).			
15	Tender package name	Procurement of Polyacrylamide for Ghorasal Thermal Power Station BPDB, Palash, Narsingdi.			
16	Tender publication date	Date: 02-03-2008.			
17	Tender last selling date	06/04/2008 up to 5:00pm.			
18	Tender closing date and time	On 07-04-2008 at 11:00am (BST).			
19	Tender opening date and time	On 07-04-2008 at 11:30am (BST).			
20	Name & address of the office(s)	Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building (9th Floor), 12-Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.			
	Selling tender document (principal)	Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building (9th Floor), 12-Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.			
	Selling tender document (others)	Nil.			
	Receiving tender document	Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building (9th Floor), 12-Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.			
	Opening tender document	Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building (9th Floor), 12-Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.			
21	Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting (optional)	Nil.			
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER					
22	Eligibility of tenderer	As per tender document.			
23	Brief description of goods or works	Procurement of Polyacrylamide for Ghorasal Thermal Power Station BPDB, Palash, Narsingdi.			
24	Brief description of related services	As per tender document.			
25	Tender document price	Non-refundable BD Taka 1,000/- (one thousand) only in the form of Pay-Order in Favour of Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, Dhaka.			
	Lot No.	Identification of lot	Location	Tender security amount	Completion time in weeks/months
26	1	Procurement of Polyacrylamide	Ghorasal Thermal Power Station, BPDB, Palash, Narsingdi.	USD 315,000 Or BDTK-22,000/-	180 days from LC opening
27	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS					
30	Name of official inviting tender	Md. Abduhu Ruhullah.			
31	Designation of official inviting tender	Director.			
32	Address of official inviting tender	Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building (9th Floor), 12-Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.			
33	Contact details of official inviting tender	Tel. 7126144 Fax 7126151			
34	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.				
<b>Md. Abduhu Ruhullah</b> Director Directorate of Purchase BPDB, Dhaka					
Biddyt/Jan-924(4)/4-3-08 GD-1074					

BPDB's International Re-Tender Notice					
1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resource/Power Division.			
2	Agency	Bangladesh Power Development Board.			
3	Procuring entity name	Director, Purchase, BPDB, Dhaka.			
4	Procuring entity code	Not used at present.			
5	Procuring entity district	Bhola.			
6	Invitation for	Procurement of spare parts/materials of Turbocharger for Bhola Diesel Power Station, BPDB, Bhola.			
7	Invitation for Tenders Ref No.	Pur-404/2006.			
8	Date	05.03.2008			
KEY INFORMATION					
9	Procurement method	Open tendering method.			
FUNDING INFORMATION					
10	Budget and source of funds	BPDB's Revenue Budget.			
11	Development partners (if applicable)	Not applicable.			
PARTICULAR INFORMATION					
12	Project/programme code (if applicable)	Not applicable.			
13	Project/programme name (if applicable)	Not applicable.			
14	Tender package No.	07 (FY 2006-2007).			
15	Tender package name	Procurement of spare parts/materials of Turbocharger for Bhola Diesel Power Station, BPDB, Bhola.			
16	Tender publication date	05.03.2008.			
17	Tender selling date	06.03.2008 to 19.04.2008.			
18	Tender closing date and time	20.04.2008 at 11:00am.			
19	Tender opening date and time	20.04.2008 at 11:30am.			
20	Name & address of the office	Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building (9th Floor), Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.			
	Selling tender document (principal)	Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building (9th Floor), Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.			
	Selling tender document (other)	Not applicable.			
	Receiving tender document	Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building (9th Floor), Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.			
	Opening tender document	Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building (9th Floor), Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.			
21	Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting (optional)	N/A.			
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER					
22	Eligibility of tenderer	As per tender document.			
23	Brief description of goods or works	Procurement of spare parts/materials of Turbocharger for Bhola Diesel Power Station, BPDB, Bhola.			
24	Brief description of related services	N/A.			
25	Price of tender document (BDT)	BDT 1,000.00 (one thousand) as a Pay-Order (non-refundable) of any schedule bank of Bangladesh in favour of Director of Purchase, BPDB, Dhaka.			
26	Lot	Identification of lot	Location	Tender security amount in USD or BDT	Completion time
	Lot-A	Procurement of spare parts/materials of Turbocharger for Bhola Diesel Power Station, BPDB, Bhola.	Bhola Diesel Power Station, BPDB, Bhola.	USD 800.00 or BDT 56,000.00 (fifty-six thousand) only	90 days from the date of opening of LC
27	Validity of tender and tender security	150 (one hundred fifty) days and 178 (one hundred seventy-eight) days respectively from the date of opening of tender.			
28	Name of official inviting tender	Md. Abduhu Ruhullah.			
29	Designation of official inviting tender	Director, Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, Dhaka.			
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS					
30	Address of official inviting tender	WAPDA Building (9th Floor), Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.			
31	Contact details of official inviting tender	Tel: +88 02 9550532, Fax: +88 02 7126151			
32	Special instruction	Any tender received by the purchaser after the deadline for submission of tenders shall be declared late, will be rejected, and returned unopened to the tenderer. The purchaser reserves the right to accept any tender, to annul the tender process, or to reject any or all tenders, at any time prior to contract award.			
33	This tender will be performed according to 'The Public Procurement Regulations-2003'.				
Biddyt/Jana-948(4)/6-3-08 GD-1135					
<b>Md. Abduhu Ruhullah</b> Director, Purchase BPDB, Dhaka					