

## RANGAMATI RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE REHABILITATION PROJECT

# One third done in 8 years despite time extension

3 of 12 roads, one of 20 bridges completed: Funds to go back if work not finished in current FY

SHANTIMOY CHAKMA, Rangamati

The Tk 64 crore Upgrading and Rehabilitation of Rural Infrastructure (URRI) project in Rangamati is unlikely to be completed within the time limit of current financial year despite extension of the project period by two years.

Only about one-third of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) aided project has been completed though Tk 40 crore has been spent so far, sources said. The rest of the

money will have to be returned if the project is not completed within the stipulated time, they said.

Only three out of 12 roads and one bridge out of at least 20 under the project have been completed in eight years, according to sources in Local Government and Engineering Department (LGED) in Rangamati.

Work on the URRI project was started in 2001-2002 to improve road links between upazilas and the district headquarters.

LGED is implementing the

project, a component of Chittagong Hill Tracts Rural Development Project (CHTRDP).

The three roads completed are Battali-Ugachari road, Kawkhali-Ghagra road and Wagga Junior Highschool-Sapchari.

They however claimed that work of remaining nine major roads is now almost half done.

The roads yet to be completed are 4.010 km Bangalhalia-Nalkachari road, 18.367 km Jhagrabil-Rangamati-Boradam Road, 7.627 km Sapchari High School-Furomown Peak road, 5.027km Bogachattar-Ghonomor road, 6.682 km Bilaichhari-Farua Bazar road, 5.283 km Bonojagichhara-Subolang Bazar road, 10.632 km Khansamapara-Baghmara-Antapara-Rajasthali upazial road, 7.823 km Bethunia Chayeri Bazar-Barmachhari Bazar road and 11.543 km Ghilachhari Bazar-Burighat Bazar road.

Only two culverts and a bridge on Jhagrabil-Boradam-Rangamati road have so far been completed.

During a recent visit this correspondent saw only about one-third work of Bilaichhari-Farua Road in Bilaichhari upazial, Bethunia-Chayeribazar-Barmachhari Bazar road in Kawkhali upazial and Ghilachhari Bazar-Burighat Bazar road has been completed.

Overall progress of the project work unsatisfactory though two-thirds of the fund have been spent.

As per the initial plan, the project was supposed to be completed in 2006-2007 financial year. As

LGED failed to implement it within the time frame, ADB extended the project period up to FY2008-2009.

The then secretary of CHT Affairs Ministry Md. Abdus Sabur at a meeting at Rangamati Circuit House in September last year expressed his dissatisfaction over the alleged dilly-dally in implementation of the project. He asked LGED authorities to complete the project by the current financial year at any cost, the sources said.

Hill people, particularly farmers, will be greatly benefited by the project as they will be able to carry agricultural products to markets when roads will be completed.

There have been allegations of use of substandard materials in construction of roads and bridges. Recently, nine construction workers and an engineer were injured when the under-construction 72 meter long Asambasti Bridge collapsed.

Dhaka based construction firm M/S Uttar Khan Ltd is constructing the bridge involving a cost of Tk 2 crore.

Locals alleged that the bridge collapsed due to use of low quality materials. Construction was started in 2006 but the bridge is still half done.

"I hope the project will be completed by June next year. If we can not do that, the money will be returned to ADB. So, we have to implement it at any cost," said LGED Assistant Engineer Pratipada Dewan at Rangamati.



PHOTO: STAR

Four years after start of construction, Asambasti Bridge in Rangamati Sadar upazila, one of the bridges under URRI, now sees completion of only pillars.

## Beaten for not joining Shibir

RU Correspondent

A group of Islamic Chhatra Shibir cadres of Rajshahi Islami Bank

Medical College (RIBMC) severely beat a first year student of the college for refusing to be a Shibir member.

Injured Hassan-Al-Arafat, also founder president of RIBMC debating society and president of Rotaract Club at the college, is now under treatment at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH).

Arafat told newsmen that a group of Shibir cadres led by Iman, Murad, Alamgir, Muhi and Panna waylaid him at Nawdapara in the city and severely hit him with iron rods, pipe and bamboo sticks. Police took him to RMCH.

Arafat said the Shibir cadres earlier threatened him as he declined to join Shibir.

When contacted, college principal SAA Bari said the incident will be probed if a written complaint is received.

## RANGPUR UNIVERSITY

### Memo to CA to fulfil pledge

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

Rangpur University Implementation Council submitted a memorandum to the Chief Advisor through the Deputy Commissioner yesterday urging him to take steps to appoint a Project Director and a Vice Chancellor of planned Rangpur University.

Convener of the Council Dr. Mohammad Rezaul Hoque handed over the memorandum to the DC at his office.

Later DC Rezaul Hoque told journalists that Education Advisor Hosen Zillur Rahman during his visit to Rangpur had declared that academic activities of the proposed university would be started this year at rented buildings.

## Body to probe 'graft' by ex-chairman of Barisal education board

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Following instruction from the Directorate of Education, a one-member probe committee has been formed to investigate the corruption charges against Prof Dr Hasanuzzaman Khan, former chairman of Board of Secondary and Intermediate Education, Barisal.

Prof Hasanuzzaman, who joined as chairman of Barisal Board in November 2006, worked there till his transfer on February 28 this year, board sources said.

During his tenure he allegedly misappropriated huge amount of money through misuse of public funds as he collected wood logs for the office from his native area at higher price, purchased computer and Photostat machine without formal tender, collected low quality generator that went out of order within a short time and

received different types of extra allowances.

The former chairman banned the use of mobile phone in the office and later lifted the ban, making it compulsory to use CDMA mobile connections to get 'benefits' from a certain company, sources said.

There are also allegations of harassing officials and staffs by depriving them of increment and promotion.

Prof Dr Md Murtaza Aliul Kabir, chairman of Barisal Education Board told The Daily Star that Prof Dr Sirajuddin Ahmed, principal of Barisal BM College, has been given the charge of investigation as head of the one-member committee.

Admitting receiving the order of investigation into allegations against Prof Dr Hasanuzzaman, Prof Sirajuddin Ahmed said no time frame was set for submitting report.

## 3 JCD cadres get life for killing BCL leader

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

A court here yesterday sentenced three cadres of Jatityabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) to life term imprisonment in the sensational Chhatra League (BCL) leader Shahed Hajari murder case.

The convicts are Shaheen alias Minister Shaheen, Mozafer and Tushar. Of them, Tushar was tried in absentia.

The court acquitted six Jubo Dal cadres named Alim, Mominul, Faruque, Anis, Iqbal and Rinku as charges brought against them were not proved beyond doubt.

Mentionable, Minhaz, another accused in the sensational case was killed in police crossfire here in 2006.

Prosecution story, in brief, is that the convicts killed Tangail district BCL joint secretary Shahidullah Khan Shahed Hajari, also a meritorious student, here on June 5, 1994. The murder was a sequel to political feud, sources said.

Victim's younger brother Shohel Hajari filed a murder case with Tangail Sadar Police Station accusing 10 JCD and Jubo Dal cadres.

## Ruet, Kuet observe 5th founding day

STAR NATIONAL DESK

The fifth founding anniversary of Rajshahi University of Engineering and Technology (Ruet) and Khulna University of Engineering and Technology (Kuet) was observed yesterday through colourful programmes.

Acting Vice Chancellor of Ruet Prof Dr Sayed Abdul Mafiz inaugurated the programme on the campus by hoisting the National Flag and the university flag atop the administrative building, reports our RU correspondent.

The programmes included launching of a tree plantation week, friendly football match participated by students, teachers and officials.

Our staff correspondent reports from Khulna: The fifth founding anniversary of Khulna University of Engineering and Technology (Kuet) was observed yesterday through various programmes.

Mayor-elect of Khulna City, Corporation Talukder Abdul Khaleque was present at the inaugural function as chief guest.

The programmes included a colourful rally, tree plantation, Milad Mehfil at Kuet mosque, seminar on technology and a friendly football match between teachers and students.

Kuet has over 2000 students in 12 departments, 172 teachers, 64 officials and 130 employees.

## Trader buys freedom in Kushtia

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

A businessman bought freedom on payment of Tk 55,000 as ransom to criminals after two days of his abduction at Hridoypur village in Daulatpur upazila.

A gang of criminals led by Fonu stormed into the house of businessman Ator Ali at about 12:00pm on Thursday.

They picked up Ator at gunpoint after confining the family members. Later, they demanded Tk 2 lakh for Ator's release.

Two days later, Ator was freed on payment of Tk 55,000 to the criminals through a via media.

The victim filed a case with Daulatpur police Sunday night accusing Fonu, Sarwar, Moynal, Aynal, Ebadat, Lipton, Jamal, Nasir and Chayen.

Police said they would take steps after investigation.

## Rangpur chamber opens 9 fair price shops for Ramadan

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

Rangpur Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) opened nine shops in the town to sell essentials at fair prices during the Ramadan.

Commander of joint forces Lt. Col. Kazi Kaisar opened the shop at different points in the town.

Among the items, palm oil will be sold at Tk 78 per litre, pulse (mushur) at Tk 81 per kg, sola at Tk 49, sugar at Tk 33, packaged flour at Tk 35 and onion at 21 per kg, according to RCCI president

Mostafa Ahmed Choudhury.



PHOTO: STAR

Samajik Protirodh Committee forms a human chain in front of Dinaipur Press Club yesterday demanding implementation of CEDAW and National Women Development Policy 2008.

## Fully implement CEDAW to remove gender inequality

Speakers tell meets at Satkhira, Gaibandha

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Speakers at discussions in Satkhira and Gaibandha yesterday urged full implementation of the Convention on Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) for overall development of women in the society.

Bangladesh, a signatory to CEDAW, also played a commendable role in framing the charter, but it is yet to fully implement it, speakers said at a discussion on 'Rights of the woman is human rights' held at Satkhira Bar Association Bhavan.

Satkhira chapter of Bangladesh Mahila Parishad and Samajik Pratirodh Committee jointly organ-

ised the discussion. Speakers demanded full ratification of the charter for removing gender discrimination.

Former principal of Satkhira Government College Prof Asit Kumar Majumdar was the chief guest while Satkhira Government College Vice-principal Prof Abdul Hamid and district Women Affairs Officer Taramoyee Mukherjee were special guests at the discussion with Dilruba Rahman in the chair.

It was addressed, among others, by public prosecutor advocate Tapan Kumar Chakraborty, journalist Kalyan Bannerjee, Principal Ashke E Elahi, Hafizur Rahman Masum and Trishna Chakraborty.

Our Gaibandha Correspondent

adds: Government's reservation on two important sections of CEDAW charter is a barrier to ensuring equal rights for men and women through overcoming social disparity, speakers said at a press conference organised by Gaibandha Development Network yesterday.

Bangladesh Women Development Policy and PRSP included a few of sections of CEDAW charter which is enough to establish total empowerment of women in the country, said the speakers.

Inclusion of CEDAW charter into existing laws is needed for overall development of women, they said at the conference where advocate Nargis Akhter Chowdhury, joint convener of Gaibandha Social Endeavour Group, read out the keynote paper.



## পাওয়ার গ্রিড কোম্পানী অব বাংলাদেশ লিঃ

### POWER GRID COMPANY OF BANGLADESH LTD.

(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)

Institution of Engineers (IEB) New Bhaban (4th floor) Ramna, Dhaka-1000

Office of The Project Director  
3-Transmission Lines Project  
Red Crescent Concord Tower (6th Floor)  
17 Mohakhali C/A, Dhaka-1212.

Date: 01/09/2008

Memo No.: PGCB/DGM(3-TL)/2.10/2008/222

### INVITATION FOR SHORT LOCAL TENDER

1 Ministry/Division	: Power, Energy and Mineral Resources/ Power
2 Agency	: Power Grid Company of Bangladesh Ltd. (PGCB)
3 Procuring Entity Name	: Project Director, 3-Transmission Lines Project, PGCB, Dhaka.
4 Procuring Entity Code	: N/A
5 Procuring Entity District	: N/A
6 Invitation for	: Procurement of 1 (one) Double Cabin Pick-up.
7 Invitation Reference no.	: PGCB/DGM(3-TL)/2.10/2008/222
8 Date	: 01.09.2008

9 Procurement Method	: Open Tendering Method
<b>FUNDING INFORMATION</b>	
10 Budget and Source of Funds	: PGCB Own Fund
11 Development Partners (if applicable)	: N/A
<b>PARTICULAR INFORMATION</b>	
12 Project/Programme Code (if applicable)	: N/A
13 Project/Programme Name (if applicable)	: N/A
14 Tender Package No.	: 1 (One)
15 Tender Package Name	: Procurement of 1 (one) Double Cabin Pick-up.
16 Tender Publication Date	: -
17 Tender Last Selling Date	: 23/09/2008 (During Office Hours)
18 Tender Closing Date & Time	: 24/09/2008; 11:30 AM
19 Tender Opening Date & Time	: 24/09/2008; 12:00 Noon
20 Name & Address of the Office(s)	: 1. Office of the Project Director, 3-Transmission Lines Project Red Crescent Concord Tower (6th Floor) 17 Mohakhali C/A, Dhaka-1212. 2. Office of the Project Director, Project-1, PGCB, Anandanagar, Aftabnagar, Badda, Dhaka. 3. Company Secretary, Power Grid Company of Bangladesh Ltd., IEB Bhavan (3rd floor), Ramna, Dhaka-1000. Office of the Project Director, 3-Transmission Lines Project Red Crescent Concord Tower (6th Floor) 17 Mohakhali C/A, Dhaka-1212. Office of the Project Director, 3-Transmission Lines Project Red Crescent Concord Tower (6th Floor) 17 Mohakhali C/A, Dhaka-1212.

21 Place/Date/Time of Pre-Tender Meeting	: N/A
<b>INFORMATION FOR TENDERER</b>	
22 Eligibility of Tenderer	: As per Tender Document
23 Description of Works	: Brand New Double Cabin Pick-up, 2300-3200 CC, Dual Fuel (Petrol & CNG), 4WD, RHD, Japan Origin.
24 Brief Description of Related Services	: As per Tender Document
25 Price of Tender Document	: Tk. 1,000.00 (One Thousand) Only.

Lot No.	Identification of Lot	Location	Tender Security Amount (Tk.)	Completion Time in Weeks/Months
26	1	Brand New Double Cabin Pick-up, 2300-3200 CC, Dual Fuel (Petrol & CNG), 4WD, RHD, Japan Origin.	50,000.00 (Tk. Fifty Thousand) Only.	21 (Twenty One) Days from issuance of Work Order

<b>PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS</b>	
27 Name of Official Inviting Tender	: Engr. Md. Aksed Ali
28 Designation of Official Inviting Tender	: Deputy General Manager & Project Director
29 Address of Official Inviting Tender	: Red Crescent Concord Tower (6th Floor) 17 Mohakhali C/A, Dhaka-1212.
30 Contact Details of Official Inviting Tender	: Tel. 9888970, 8850476; Cell Phone: 01713069186
31 The Procuring Entity Reserves the Right to Accept or Reject any/all Tender(s).	

(Engr. Md. Aksed Ali)  
DGM & Project Director  
3-Transmission Lines Project  
PGCB, Dhaka.



PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

Flood water touches rooftops of houses in Badsha Miar Bari Model Village and Ashrayan Project in Dewanganj upazila in Jamalpur district as Jamuna River continued to swell yesterday.