

## Buriganga

FROM PAGE 1

Ahmed was among the injured. Sources said the auto-rickshaw drivers have been protesting against new leaseholder Jahangir Alam, who is the general secretary of Ward-64 unit of Awami League, as he increased toll from Tk 10 to Tk 15 for each auto-rickshaw since June 18.

Upazila Chairman Shahin took over the leadership of the drivers and the drivers yesterday staged demonstrations on the bridge under his leadership.

Witnesses said the hired cadres of the leaseholder along with police swooped on the drivers when the agitating drivers and a group of local people on the southern part put barricade on the bridge around 2:00pm.

Imam Hossain, additional superintendent of police of Dhaka district, told The Daily Star that the clash ensued over collecting additional tolls from the vehicles by the leaseholder.

"Local people put barricade on the bridge and locked in clashes with the people of the leaseholder," the additional SP said, adding that the Upazila chairman also took part in the protest and police fired about 25 gunshots to disperse the clash.

Sources said Chairman Sahin was admitted to a local hospital after he received a splinter in his body while other injured were taken to various hospitals and clinics.

Witnesses said hundreds of vehicles got stranded on both sides of the bridge while people were seen crossing the bridge on foot.

The authorities of Roads and Highways Department (RHD) had collected toll from the bridge before June 18 and the bridge was then leased to Erfan Enterprise at Tk 8,78,88,000 for one year.

Soon after the Erfan Enterprise took over the charge of toll collection, it raised the toll.

Witnesses said they are collecting Tk 5 even from each rickshaw and van, which is totally illegal. But no one dares to protest it as a number of hired cadres of the lessee always move around the toll counter.

## 14 Taliban killed in NW Pakistan

AFP, Peshawar

At least 14 Taliban militants were killed in separate battles with local vigilantes and Pakistani troops in the northwest of the country, the police and military said yesterday.

A group of rebels fleeing towards northwest Chitral district was intercepted by local vigilantes in the village of Patrak in Upper Dir district after which intense gunfight broke out, police chief Ejaz Ahmed told AFP.

"Seven militants were killed in the fighting," he said, adding that police had blocked possible escape routes out of the area to try and catch the fleeing insurgents.

It is the second reported incident of locals turning against rebels in Upper Dir this month.

Upper Dir is near three northwest districts hit by the Pakistani military offensive aimed at crushing rebel fighters after they flouted a

peace deal and thrust towards the capital Islamabad.

Separately, the military said that after "intense engagement" it had killed seven militants and arrested 16 others in Malakand, which includes Upper and Lower Dir, Buner and Swat districts.

"During (the) last 24 hours, seven terrorists were killed and 16 were apprehended, while five soldiers were injured in Malakand," it said in a statement.

The military's offensive has the backing of the United States and enjoys broad popular support among Pakistanis exasperated by worsening Taliban-linked attacks, which have killed more than 1,960 people in the nuclear-armed country since July 2007.

Officials have said up to 1,000 Upper Dir villagers earlier this month formed a vigilante mob and stormed three villages where suspected Taliban were hiding out.

## Lankan army re-deploys after end of war

ANN, Colombo

With the end of three decades long Eelam war against the LTTE, the army has now re-deployed in the Northern and Eastern Provinces under five Security Forces Headquarters with a sizeable force in reserve to meet any eventuality.

Of the five SF commands, two at Kilinochchi and Mullaitivu have been set up recently as part of post-LTTE re-deployment plan.

In keeping with Army Chief General Sarath Fonseka's strategy, 51 and 52 Divisions along with Task Force 7 (TF 7) are deployed in the northern peninsula under SF Headquarters, Jaffna. Major General Mendaka Samarasinghe, who is in charge of the peninsula, would also have the 55 Division commanded by

Brigadier Prasanna Silva stationed at Chalai, on the Mullaitivu coast, on reserve status.

The TF 7 has been assigned to the strategic Elephant Pass area, one of the major battlegrounds of the Eelam war.

The army said that the forces now assigned to the Jaffna peninsula were small when compared with the strength available to any previous SF Commander, Jaffna, before the collapse of the LTTE.

The army had two fighting divisions, namely 55 and 53 deployed along the 12km long Jaffna frontline to thwart LTTE assault across it. In fact, some of the best fighting formations had always been assigned to Jaffna before General Fonseka raised three Divisions and five Task Forces to liberate the Vanni region.

## Eviction lost

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factory in Barafkal Ghat area to remove its structure but they had to come back as the factory owner holds a valid lease.

The factory authorities produced lease document that shows BIWTA licensed the factory to use the river foreshore till June 30 this year.

According to the current BIWTA list of encroachers in Shitalakhya, prepared on the basis of a joint survey in 2007, Alpina Dyeing has grabbed 16,000 square feet of the river foreshore by filling earth.

Then the eviction team moved to ACI Flour Mills in Bandar area, opposite to Barafkal Ghat, to evict structure but they had to retreat again as the notice served on the encroacher was inadequate.

According to the BIWTA list, ACI Flour has encroached up to 22,500 square feet into the river by filling earth and raising walls. Authorities have to demolish a significant portion of the mill's structure to recover river foreshore in the area.

But the BIWTA eviction notice mentions only about the earth filling, not the structure. "It requires that authorities serve a revised notice to demolish both structures and remove earth," said BIWTA Deputy Director Alamgir Kabir.

The eviction team then returned to Godnail area on the west bank of the river to demolish illegal portion of Siddique & Company and remove earth filling.

According to BIWTA survey list, Siddique & Company has encroached upon 5,000 square feet of the river foreshore by earth filling and erecting walls in the river.

The team also spared the structure allowing its owner a day's time to remove machinery from the illegal portion of the building.

The eviction team later went to Barnali Dyeing that has grabbed 5,200 square feet in the river by filling earth and constructing walls.

They again had to spare the encroacher, as Barnali has a valid lease from BIWTA. "We will not renew such licence," said Md Abu Zafar Hawlader, senior deputy director of BIWTA.

"We need a fresh survey and up-to-date list of the encroachers," he said, "I will place a proposal to the higher authority in this

regard."

Asked how the list of the encroachers has been prepared and structures were not identified in some cases of the survey, Hawlader said, "The list prepared in 2007 might have some lapses."

There has not been any survey on encroachment on the east bank of the river and no appropriate lists of encroachers were made, he said.

However, the eviction team destroyed 15,000 feet long bamboo fencing, erected by Akiz Cement factory in Bandar area apparently intended for filling earth in the river. A 200-foot long and 15-foot high concrete wall of Akiz cement was also demolished.

The team knocked down four semi-concrete and finished structures including a cotton warehouse and a house built by Kafil Uddin Bhuiyan in Dhakeswari area on the west bank.

Authorities also destroyed a boundary wall built on 14,000 square feet land by Al-Noor Paper Mills, which was next to Kafil Uddin's house.

Meanwhile, BIWTA and Dhaka district administration continued their drive on the fourth day to remove massive earth from the foreshore of river Turag near Gabtali-Amin Bazar Bridge in the city, said BIWTA Senior Deputy Director Golam Kabir.

However, the officials on eviction duty said the drive suffered setback in Gabtali as 11 encroachers obtained court's stay order against eviction.

The drive continues today in river Shitalakhya and Turag.

**WASA'S DRIVE**  
An official of Dhaka Wasa said 50 shops, 11 makeshift houses and a concrete mosque were demolished yesterday during the drive against encroachers of Kalyanpur, 'Gha', canal, at Shyamoli in the city. Wasa Magistrate Kazi Wasiuddin led the drive.

Earlier, the Wasa conducted the drive in Katasur and Hazaribagh canals and removed illegal structures from there.

"We have started the drive to free the city canals from encroachers and gradually the drive will be conducted to remove structures from other canals," said a Wasa official.

## 2 sisters acid-burnt over marriage refusal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two sisters were acid-burnt in the early hours Saturday in a sequel to their parents' refusal to a marriage proposal about one and a half years ago.

Asadullah Akash, a pickup truck helper of Bogra, threw acid on Mahmuda Akhter Shimu, 16, and her sister Masuma Akhter Shantona, 25, in Kishoreganj upazila, Nilphamari. Both the sisters suffered severe burns in their faces and other parts of the body.

They were first committed to Rangpur Medical College Hospital and later moved to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) as their condition deteriorated.

Project Director of DMCH Burn and Plastic Surgery Unit Samantlal Sen said Shimu received eight percent burns in her face, head, throat and hands. Her eyes were also critically injured and need to be operated immediately.

Condition of Shantona is relatively better, though she is undergoing severe pain at the burn unit.

"We went outside our room to answer a call of

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Shantona sits at the bedside of her younger sister Shimu at the Burn Unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday where both sisters were brought following acid attacks on them.

PHOTO: STAR

## Strong information commission sought

FROM PAGE 16

Matia Chowdhury read out a message of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina: "My government enacted the law and is committed to implement it to establish a corruption-free public administration and ensure the rights of general masses."

"I want to see this law to work for the poor and disadvantaged people," Hasina said in the message.

Executive Director of Transparency International Bangladesh Dr Iftekharuzzaman presented a keynote paper titled "Implementing right to information in Bangladesh: Opportunities and challenges".

The right to information is the key to all other rights, he said in the paper.

About the key challenges, he said at political level commitment is one thing while delivery can be quite different. "The main challenge lies in the fact that information is power, which requires a paradigm shift including a major transformation of the mindset and attitudes to be able to share power and to own and internalise the culture of disclosure."

Terming the information commission a key element to RTI, Iftekharuzzaman said its commissioners must have the highest degree of credibility, public trust, professional excel-

lence and capacity, leadership quality and dynamism.

"All the major political parties including the two major electoral alliances led by the ruling Awami League and BNP respectively recognised the importance of the RTI," reads the keynote paper, adding that it needs to be placed in a strategic framework and a plan of action with specific timeframe considering the people's expectations.

Iftekharuzzaman talked about breaking the culture of secrecy, RTI-friendly information and legal systems and the role of civil society, media and NGOs for successful implementation of the law.

Shaheen Anam, convener of Right to Information Forum, said in her welcome speech that the objective of the seminar is to learn and share knowledge and experience of implementing RTI in different countries.

She said she believed the RTI will assist the government to fulfil its election pledge for a corruption-free Bangladesh. "It will give people more opportunity to participate in public affairs and hold duty bearers accountable for their actions. Unfortunately, a culture of secrecy prevents sharing of information," said Shaheen.

With the enactment of RTI law, a strong foundation for institutionalising a democratic

and corruption-free society has been built, she added.

She said most countries faced big challenges in implementing the law. "The first challenge lies in changing the mindsets and attitude of the people who use information as power and are reluctant to part with it," she said, assuring the government of providing any assistance while implementing the law.

She advocated for a strong and independent information commission for playing an effective role in protecting people's right to information.


An RTI training manual was launched at the function.

A plenary session styled

"Step towards effectively implementing RTI law: lessons from international experience" and three parallel workshops on "scope for legislature and court", "international experiences, role of right to information commission: functions", "interactions with other stakeholders, reporting mechanism and performance indicators", and "creating the culture of openness and participation using the RTI act" were held yesterday.

A meeting of editors on the role of media in implementing the RTI act was also held at the end of the first-day conference.

Three more workshops and a plenary session will be held today.



**Common Services Department**  
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Tender No. CSD:5/B/1(maintenance)-25/2009 Dated: 17-6-2009

## Invitation for Tenders


Sealed tenders are invited from the contractors/firms for daily operation, maintenance, repairing and servicing of electrical system viz. sub-station, diesel generator, internal and external electrification works installed at Bangladesh Bank Buildings, Head Office, Dhaka. Necessary information are given below:

1.	Source of fund	Bangladesh Bank.
2.	Invitation for tender No.	CSD:5/B/1(maintenance)-25/2009.
3.	Eligibility of tenderer	a) Tenderers having 05 (five) years overall business experience in repairing and construction of electrical works in any govt./semi-govt./autonomous organization or registered limited companies in Bangladesh. b) Tenderers having specific experience in successful completion of similar nature of electrical maintenance, repairing & servicing work of electrical installations viz. electrical sub-station (Transformer, HT & LT Switchgear, PFI panel and its components), Diesel Generator sets and its components, Bus Bar Trunking (BBT) & its components, and internal/external electrification work during last 05 (five) years under a single or more contract worth not less than Tk. 5,00,000/- (five lac) only per year with documentary evidence of successful completion. The tenderers shall have to furnish certificate in this respect from the officers not below the rank of Executive Engineer and shall meet all other criteria, terms & conditions as specified in tender document. The tenderer must have valid electrical ABC contracting and supervisory license.
4.	Name & address of the office selling tender document	Common Services Department (CR&D Section at 1st Floor of 30-storied Building), Bangladesh Bank, Head Office, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh.
5.	Name & address of the office receiving tender	Common Services Department (6th Floor of 30-storied Building), Bangladesh Bank, Head Office, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh.
6.	Last date and time for selling tender documents	12-7-2009 up to normal office hours.
7.	Last date & time for submission of tenders	13-7-2009 on or before 02:00 pm.
8.	Date & time for tender opening	13-7-2009 at 2:15pm (intending tenderers or their authorized representative(s) are allowed to attend the tender opening).
9.	Brief description of the goods and services	The work consists of daily operation, maintenance, repairing & servicing of: a) Internal & external electrification works, Bus Bar Trunking (BBT) system & Cable networking. b) Electric sub-station & its components. c) Diesel Generator. d) Earthing & lightning protection system of Main Building, 30-storied Building, 1st Annex Building, all sub-station and generators installed at Bangladesh Bank, Head Office premises, Dhaka.
10.	Price of tender document	Tk. 2000/- (two thousand) only (non-refundable).
11.	Time for completion of the work	36 (thirty-six) months from the date of contract signing.
12.	Tenders security	Tender security amount will be Tk. 1,50,000/- (one lac fifty thousand) only.

This invitation for tenders is also available in the above web-sites.  
Bangladesh Bank reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

DPP: 48/09-985  
Dt: 18/06/09  
GD-3125

**Md. Ahsan Ullah**  
General Manager



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Tender No. CSD:5/B/1(solar)-26/2009 Dated: 18-6-2009

## Invitation for Tenders

Sealed tenders are invited in two-stage tendering method (first stage un-priced technical proposal and second stage-financial offer) from reputed manufacturers, suppliers or their local agents for supply, installation, testing and commissioning of Solar Power System including operation, trouble-shooting, maintenance & servicing for Bangladesh Bank, Head Office, Dhaka. Necessary information are given below:

1.	Source of funds	Bangladesh Bank.
2.	Invitation for tender No.	CSD: 5/B/1(solar)-26/2009.
3.	Eligibility of tenderer	Tenderers having 05 (five) years overall business experience and also having experience in successful completion of at least 01 (one) number of similar work consisting of at least 2000watt of offered brand Solar Power System in any govt./semi-govt./autonomous organisations/Registered Limited Companies/ Private organizations in Bangladesh during last 03 (three) years. Other required eligibilities & qualifications of the tenderers are shown in the tender documents (ITT & TDS).
4.	Name & address of the office selling tender document	Common Services Department (CR&D Section at 1st Floor of 1st Annex Building), Bangladesh Bank, Head Office, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000.
5.	Name & address of the office receiving tender	Common Services Department, 6th Floor of 30-storied Building, Bangladesh Bank, Head Office, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000.
6.	Last date & time for selling tender documents	19-7-2009 up to normal office hours.
7.	Last date & time for submission of tenders	20-7-2009 on or before 2:00 pm.
8.	Date & time for tender opening	20-7-2009 at 2:15pm (intending tenderers or their authorized representative(s) are allowed to attend the tender opening).
9.	Brief description of the goods and services	Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of 10000watt, 230 volt, 50Hz AC Solar Power System for security/area lighting in Bangladesh Bank, Head Office premises to be completed on package/turn-key job basis. They will also provide after sale services i.e. operation, trouble-shooting, maintenance & servicing for 04 years over and above 02 years of full warranty (including operation) obligations.
10.	Price of tender document	Tk. 2000/- (two thousand) only (non-refundable).
11.	Time for completion of the work	03 (three) months from the date of issue of Award of Contract.
12.	Tenders security	Tender security amount will be mentioned at the second stage i.e. financial offer.

This invitation for tenders is also available in the above web-sites and CPTU web-site.  
Bangladesh Bank reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

DPP: 48/09-982  
Dt: 18.06.09  
GD-3126

**Md Ahsan Ullah**  
General Manager