

High earthquake risk

FROM PAGE 1
In the zoning map of 1993, which was included in the BNBC, 26 percent of the country was high risk, 38 percent moderate and 36 percent low in terms of earthquake vulnerability.

ASM Maksud Kamal, an expert on earthquake and tsunami preparedness, said four sources of earthquake in the Bay of Bengal are active and can generate tsunami.

He said one of the sources generated an earthquake of 7.8 magnitude in 1762 which generated Fiche, waves caused by earthquakes in rivers and other closed water bodies, and around 100 people were killed in boat capsize at that time in the Buriganga.

Kamal said all the four sources in the Bay called F1, F2, F3 and F4 have a capability of generating earthquakes of over 7 magnitude creating tsunami which will affect Bangladesh.

In that case the sea level will rise by 4-5 metres at Nijhum Dwip. The water level will rise 2-3 metres at the Sundarbans, Cox's Bazar and the estuary of the Meghna.

Kamal said seven major earthquakes struck Bangladesh during the last 150 years and only two had the epicentre within the country.

The Srimangal earthquake on July 8, 1918 was recorded at 7.6 on the Richter scale and its epicentre was in Balisera valley near Srimangal. Although there was damage, the intensity rapidly decreased due to the shallow focal depth and only minor effects were felt in Dhaka, he said.

The Bengal earthquake of July 14, 1885 caused considerable damage in the Sirajganj-Bogra region and perhaps more severe destruction in Jamalpur-Sherpur-Mymensingh region. The magnitude of the earthquake was more than 7.0 on the Richter scale and the epicentre was at Manikganj, he added.

During the 1762 earthquake in Chittagong-Arakan coast the magnitude was 7.6 but the exact epicentre remained unclear.

The great Indian earthquake of June 12, 1897 that had a magnitude of 8.7 with the epicentre in the central part of the Shillong plateau was recalled as one of the world's worst.

Based on the epicentres of earlier earthquakes, Dhaka has crossed 130 years, Chittagong has crossed 250 years and Sylhet about 100 years, which now raises the prospect of a major earthquake striking Bangladesh, said Kamal.

He observed that fault zones like Dauki fault zone, Shahjibazar fault zone and Tripura to Assam fault zone are very active and have been generating energy for quite a long time but as no earthquake occurred in those areas, it is a matter of time before the big one strikes.

Prof Ansary said eight fault zones are active in Bangladesh. They are Bogra fault zone, Tanore fault zone in Rajshahi, Tripura fault zone, Sitakunda-Teknaf fault zone, Dauki fault zone (Haluaghat Fault), Dhuri fault zone, Chittagong fault zone, Shahjibazar fault zone (sub-Dauki fault) and Rangamati fault zone (Borcal).

He said any minor earthquake might be due to the activity in the local small fault zones, thus increasing the chances of a major jolt happening. Besides, Ansary felt a strong earthquake could occur in the plate boundaries as the 100-year alarm bells have passed.

Bangladesh is close to the meeting point of the Indian, Eurasian and Burma (Myanmar) plates. The movement of Indian and Eurasian plates has been locked at the foot of the Himalayas for many years, storing strain energy, he said.

When the lock is released it will let out the strain

energy causing major earthquakes that will affect Bangladesh, northeast part of India and Myanmar, Ansary explained.

Three strong earthquakes were recorded from the Indian-Eurasian plate, which jolted Bangladesh within 150 years, said Ansary.

Due to the Indian and Eurasian and Myanmar plates, the Bihar-Nepal earthquake took place in 1934 and it was felt as far away as Dinajpur and Rangpur, he said.

The Assam earthquake on August 15, 1950 had a magnitude of 8.6 on the Richter scale. The tremor was felt throughout Bangladesh but miraculously no damage was reported anywhere.

But the Mandalay earthquake that struck in 1858 with a magnitude of 7.9 did affect Chittagong division, he added.

2 Bangladeshis die in Malaysia after inhaling poisonous gas

AFP, Kuala Lumpur

Six people including two Bangladeshi workers died yesterday after they accidentally inhaled poisonous gas produced by a container of rotten fish, Malaysian police said.

A senior officer said the incident happened early Tuesday at a remote fishing village in Tanjung Karang, north of the capital Kuala Lumpur, when the workers were unloading the container.

"Two Bangladeshi workers were taking out the rotten fish meant to be used as fertiliser from a container when they inhaled the (toxic) gas," acting district police chief Zulkifli Jonit told AFP.

"They suffered breathing difficulties and then collapsed. Four others who tried to offer help also inhaled the gas and died," he added.

HC Order

FROM PAGE 16
advocate Abdul Wadud as the organisation's chairman in the face of employees' agitation against Faruque for corruption and nepotism.

Faruque along with his hired men launched attacks on Proshika employees at several places in the capital on August 1, leaving at least 20 injured, in a bid to enter the NGO office at Mirpur-10.

After being removed, Faruque filed a case with the first assistant judge's court on May 27, challenging the governing body's decision but the court rejected the petition on May 31. Faruque then filed an appeal with the district judge's court on June 1, which was also rejected on June 6. He finally filed a civil revision case with the High Court.

After holding a long hearing on the revision petition, the HC bench yesterday delivered the verdict.

In its verdict, the HC bench also asked Faruque and Proshika authorities to take steps to dispose of the case regarding the authority of the organisation pending with the lower court within four months.

Central coordinator of Proshika, Shyamal Dey expressed satisfaction with the HC verdict.

He told The Daily Star that Qazi Faruque was removed from the organisation on charge of his unbridled corruption and nepotism.

Advocate Khandaker Mahbubuddin Ahmed and advocate Anisul Haq assisted by barrister Maniruzzaman appeared for Proshika, while barrister Rokonuddin Mahmud assisted by barrister Mustafizur Rahman Khan argued for Faruque.

Meanwhile, 13 of the 20 general members of the Proshika executive committee, whose names Faruque used to prove himself to be still the NGO's chairman, yesterday denied having any affiliation with him.

In a statement, they said Faruque used their names unlawfully in a vain effort to prove that he was made the chairman of the NGO at a so-called annual general meeting on June 6.

They alleged that the documents Faruque submitted to the court in the revision petition case are baseless and fabricated. They also accused Faruque of forging their signatures to mislead the court.

The signatories of the statement—Bhabatosh Roy, Jaban Ali,

Hanif Mal, Shamsul Alam, Bela Bhakta, Goutam Biswas, Abul Kalam Azad, Hamida Begum, Jabeda Begum, Kohinur Begum, Afzal Hossain, Manjura Khatun and Musabbia—denounced Faruque for his misdeeds.

One of the country's largest NGOs, Proshika has 220 offices across the country and more than 5,000 employees.

Law minister

FROM PAGE 16
(AmCham) at Sheraton Hotel.

While speaking on the 'Rule of Law' as the guest of honour, the minister said the Islamic militants are dangerous for everybody, as they want to establish the 'Rules of God', but they themselves do not know what are the rules of God, he said.

He said it is not only the duty of the government to contain the Islamic militants but it is also the duty of all in the society.

The minister urged the people to provide information about militancy to help try the militants.

He said the government is seriously considering introduction of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) system for disposing the large number of cases pending in the courts for trial due to lack of judges.

The government would apply the ADR system not only for disposing of the civil cases, but also the petty criminal cases, the minister said adding that the country has been suffering from the dearth of experienced judges. "This is why we are seriously considering introduction of the alternative dispute resolution," he said.

In the ADR system, the judges would call both the parties of cases to dispose of quickly to reduce the pressure of cases pending in the courts for trial, Shafique said.

Many countries of the world have been following the ADR system for quick disposal of the cases, he mentioned.

Replying to a query from a businessman, the minister said the government would not spare if a judge is found corrupt in judicial system.

"Of course, we would take punitive actions against the corrupt judges, if it is proved," he said.

Syed Ershad Ahmed, president of the AmCham, moderated the meeting. A good number of businessmen and diplomats were also present.

Children's textbooks

FROM PAGE 1
Most of the books, especially Bangla of class III and IV, Paribesh Parichiti (Sama) of the same classes have smaller front cover illustration.

Besides, pictures and texts in some books, especially mathematics of class II and I, are so crowded that they give headaches to students rather than creating a relaxed mood.

Which is why, the government has recently formed a five-member committee to bring changes in the cover designs and illustrations of the textbooks so that they appear to be engaging to students, said NCTB Chairman Mostofa Kamal Uddin.

Headed by Prof Rafiqun Nabi, dean of the fine arts department of Dhaka University, the committee will look into the matter, he said.

The academics say illustrations give children a fuller understanding of the book's contents and these should be crafted carefully so that they go with the story and give the children a clear conception of what the story is telling about.

When multi-colours are being used in textbooks across the globe to make it appear more gripping and intriguing to children, most of the textbooks of NCTB, except the books in class I and II, have only black and white colour illustrations.

Sources said NCTB hires some inept artists for the illustrations of the textbooks responsible for the poor quality of pictures and sketches.

Experienced and competent artists are not interested in doing illustrations of NCTB's textbooks as the board offers a negligible amount of money for the job, they said.

Talking to The Daily Star, noted artist Prof Hashem Khan said illustration is as important as the texts, because children learn mostly through visual entertainment, but the authorities concerned don't seem to give proper attention to it.

"Children get flabbergasted at the very early stage if they do not find pleasure in their books and school," he said, adding that it is unfortunate that the illustrations in most of the textbooks have been designed

haphazardly, which is not appropriate for the children.

Prof Hashem who used to do illustrations for NCTB books, said apart from illustrations, designs of books meaning that the proportionate presentation of texts and pictures, and bookbinding are also very poor.

"Crafting illustration for the children is not an easy work as it needs proper merit, training and expertise," he added.

"It is believed that two kinds of writers are there for children's book -- ones who write books while the others are illustrators. The latter is neglected in our country," Hashem lamented.

Eminent educationist and writer Prof Muhammad Zafar Iqbal told The Daily Star that the illustrations at the primary-level books are not at all appropriate for the children.

"Most of the pictures seem to have been done insincerely and in some cases it is hard to find consistency between the texts and pictures," he said.

Though four colours have been used in the pictures of some books, they are not vivid, he said, adding that the conditions of Madrasa books are extremely bad.

"Illustration is one of the important mediums for teaching children," he said, adding: "Books for the children, especially the younger ones, should be picture based and they should have large, beautiful, colourful and eye-catching illustrations and simpler texts."

M Siddiqui Rahman, a professor at the Institute of Education and Research of Dhaka University, said proper language and attractive illustration are equally important while giving any idea to the children as they can memorise a topic easily through pictures.

"The cover page along with other pages and the bindings also cannot be considered as good-looking and durable," he said.

"I think NCTB crammed too many smaller pictures and texts together in a single page only to reduce the cost," he said.

Prof Rahman, also a member of National Education Policy Formulation Committee, said the quality of

the textbooks will not be changed if non-professional people do the job.

NCTB Chairman Mostofa Kamal Uddin, however, claimed that the prominent artists do the complicated illustration works.

"Multi colours have never been used in the illustration at primary level as it is a huge task," he said, adding that they will do their best to make the books attractive to children.

BARAPUKURIA Power plant workers go on strike

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

The workers of Barapukuria 250MW power plant went on an indefinite strike yesterday to realise their 11-point demand including festival bonus and increment.

They also demanded cancellation of the ongoing process to recruit manpower through a recruiting agency, Zahir Traders.

Sources said around 300 workers started the strike at 8:30am yesterday as the plant authorities and the agency did not heed to their demands despite repeated appeal.

Md Khairul Islam, president of Barapukuria Power Plant Workers Association, said that they got their appointment through Zahir Traders. According to the agreement between the workers and the agency, workers would get wage increment every year, but they are being deprived of it.

When contacted, Chief Engineer of the Power Plant Bishwa Nath Haldar confirmed the incident and said that the strike will hamper smooth power generation.

However, the workers agreed to lift the strike for an hour from 7:30pm following a meeting.

Sources said the workers' power plant officials and recruiting agency men sat in a meeting at 8:30pm to resolve the problem. The meeting continued till filling of this report at 9:30pm.

National Housing Authority

Office of the Executive Engineer
Mirpur Housing & Settlement Division-2
Mirpur, Dhaka
Website: www.nha.gov.bd

Invitation for Re-Tender (Works)

Tender No. 01 (2009-2010)/EHM-2/NHA

Date: 2-8-2009

Memo No. 1860/EHM-2/NHA, Sealed tenders are hereby invited as per "The Public Procurement Rules-2008" from the eligible tenderers as defined in the tender documents for undermentioned work as per terms & conditions stated below:

1.	Ministry	Ministry of Housing and Public Works (MOHPW).
2.	Agency	National Housing Authority.
3.	Procuring entity name	Executive Engineer, Mirpur Housing & Settlement Division-2, National Housing Authority, Mirpur, Dhaka.
4.	Procuring entity district	Dhaka.
5.	Invitation for	Works.
6.	Invitation Ref. No.	Memo No. 1860/EHM-2/NHA, Date: 2-8-2009
7.	Tender No.	01 (2009-2010)/EHM-2/NHA
8.	Name of project	Construction of 13-Storeyed Commercial Cum Residential Building (near Town Hall Market) at Asad Avenue, Mohammadpur Housing Estate, Mohammadpur, Dhaka.
9.	Source of funds	Self-financing (through NHA).
10.	Procedure of tender	Open tendering method (OTM).
11.	Eligibility of tenderers	The invitation for tender is open to all eligible tenderers as mentioned below: a) Reputed contractors/construction firms/developer (REHAB member only) who have minimum 10 (ten) years of general experience in the construction of 12-storeyed building works. b) Having experience in successful completion of construction of at least 01 (one) No. 12-storeyed residential/commercial building in a single tender in government/semi-government/autonomous organization/building constructed by developer in Bangladesh during last 05 (five) years. The work certificate for successful completion of a building work shall have to be issued by the officer not below that rank of Executive Engineer or equivalent officer of concerned department/organization duly verified by the concerned Executive Engineer of NHA/PWD of that district under whose jurisdiction the work has been done. In case of developer the work experience certificate should be issued by REHAB, president/secretary. Work certificate must be enclosed along with the tender in prescribed format as shown in tender and contract forms section (Form-A). c) The required minimum average annual construction turnover during last 5 (five) years (from 2003-04 to 2007-08) of Tk. 1500.00 (fifteen hundred) lac. d) The minimum amount of current asset/liquid asset or credit facilities net of other contractual commitments of the successful tenderer shall be Tk. 500.00 (five hundred) lac. e) Up-to-date valid trade license, VAT registration certificate with TIN No. and Income tax clearance certificate and valid A, B & C category electrical contractor's licence and supervisory licence from Electricity Licensing Board, Government of Bangladesh. f) Other required eligibility and conditions of the tenderer are shown in tender data sheet of tender documents. g) All other conditions as mentioned in the tender documents must be fulfilled.

12.	Name & addresses of the offices selling tender documents	a) Office of the Executive Engineer, Mirpur H & S Division-2, National Housing Authority, Mirpur, Dhaka. b) Office of the Executive Engineer, Dhaka Division-1, National Housing Authority, Mirpur, Dhaka. c) Office of the Executive Engineer, Dhaka Division-2, National Housing Authority, Mohammadpur, Dhaka.
13.	Name & address of the offices for receiving tenders	Office of the Member (Engineering & Co-ordination), National Housing Authority, Gohayan Bhaban, 1st Floor, Segunbagicha, Dhaka.
14.	Name & address of the office of opening of tender	Office of the Member (Engineering & Co-ordination), National Housing Authority, Gohayan Bhaban, 1st Floor, Segunbagicha, Dhaka.
15.	Last date & time of selling of tender documents	24-8-2009 during office hours.
16.	Last date & time of tender submission	25-8-2009, time 12:00 hrs.
17.	Date and time of opening of tender documents	25-8-2009, time 1:00 hrs. (The participating tenderers representative with due authorization will be allowed to attend the opening of the tender).
18.	Tender document price	Tk. 5,000.00 (five thousand) only (non-refundable).
19.	Name of the work	

Name of the work and location	Tender security	Time for completion (days)
Construction of 13 (thirteen) Storeyed Commercial Cum Residential Building (near Town Hall Market) at Asad Avenue, Mohammadpur Housing Estate, Mohammadpur, Dhaka under Mirpur H&S Division-2, NHA during the year 2009-2010.	Tk. 95.00 lac (ninety six) lac only (in the form of Pay Order/Bank Draft/Bank Guarantee)	36 (thirty six) months/3 (three) years.
20. Contact details of official inviting tender	Office of the Executive Engineer, Mirpur Housing & Settlement Division-2, National Housing Authority, Mirpur, Dhaka. Phone: 02-8061986	
21. Pre-tender meeting & date	Pre-tender meeting & date will be held on 20-8-2009 at 11:00am in Office of the Member (Engineering & Co-ordination), National Housing Authority, Gohayan Bhaban, 1st Floor, Segunbagicha, Dhaka.	

22. Special Instruction:	
22.1. Eligible firms/their authorized representative may purchase tender documents from the officials mentioned in Para No. 12.0 written request on their letterhead pad.	
22.2. Furnishing of any false, forged and misleading documents by tender shall result in rejection of his/her tender.	
22.3. If there any confusion arise due to printing mistakes or other reason than "The Public Procurement Act-2008" will govern.	
22.4. Tender shall be valid for a period 120 (one hundred twenty) days after opening.	
22.5. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids and no claim shall be acceptable in this regard.	
22.6. The tender notice is also available at website: www.nha.gov.bd of NHA & www.cptu.gov.bd of Central Procurement Technical Unit.	

GD-3685

Firoj Ahmad
Executive Engineer
Phone: 02-8061986

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Directorate General of Health Services
MBDC, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212

যন্ত্রা প্রতিরোধে
আমিও আছি

Memo No. 4-16/TB-Lep/Office Rent/08/1555

Office Space Wanted

National TB Control Program (NTP) under DGHS is looking for a suitable hours/apartment having about 6,000-8,000 sq. ft. preferably in Gulshan, New DOHS, Mohakhali, Banani and adjacent areas to be used for office with adequate security performing the building code of Bangladesh and wide facility for car parking. Only real owners are encouraged to contact to the undersigned within 21 days of publication of advertisement with location map, house rent fix up rate which have been approved by the committee of respective location area and plan of the building. Rent is negotiable following the rules of Ministry of Housing & Public Works and GFATM work plan budget.

Director MBDC &

Line Director TB-Leprosy Control
DGHS (TB Gate), Mohakhali, Dhaka.

GD-3727

Phone: 9884656, 9884657

Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute

Savar, Dhaka

No. Procurement-10(Part-2)/2009/1239

Date: 5-8-09

Invitation for Enlistment

Sealed applications for enlistment are hereby invited from the bonafide contractors/suppliers/importers/local agents for supply of Chemicals & Reagents.

1.	Source of funds	GOB.
2.	Invitation for	Enlistment for Supply of Chemicals & Reagents.
3.	Procurement method	Limited tendering method.
4.	Duration of enlistment	For the year of 2009-2010 to 2013-2014.
5.	Price of application form	Tk. 500.00 (five hundred) only (non-refundable).
6.	Name and address of the office selling application form	Accounts Section, Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute, Savar, Dhaka.
7.	Place for submission of application form	Office of the Executive Engineer, BLRI, Savar, Dhaka.
8.	Name and address of the office opening applications	Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute, Savar, Dhaka.
9.	Last date & time for selling application form	02-09-2009 up to 4:00 pm.
10.	Last date and time for submission of application form	03-09-2009 up to 12:00 noon.
11.	Date and time for opening of application	03-09-2009 at 12:30 pm.
12.	Eligibility	Any govt. registered contractor/supplier/importer/local agent.
13.	Brief description of goods	Chemicals and Reagents Related to Livestock Research.
14.	Special instruction	The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all application without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Dr. Jahangir Alam Khan
Director General (CC)
Phone: 7791670-2

GD-3715



Office of CMES (Air)

Kurmitola, Dhaka Cantt

Notice of Invitation of Tender

1.	Ministry/Division		Ministry of Defence.			
2.	Agency		Military Engineer Services.			
3.	Procuring entity name		CMES (Air) Kurmitola			
4.	Procuring entity district		Dhaka			
5.	Invitation for tender		As per SI No. 18.			
6.	Invitation Ref No		6000/Notice/64/E-6.			
7.	Date		02 August 2009.			
8.	Procurement method		OTM.			
9.	Budget and source of funds		GOB			
10.	Tender selling date		12 August 2009.			
11.	Tender last selling date		19 August 2009.			
12.	Tender closing date and time		23 August 2009 1200 hours.			
13.	Tender opening date and time		23 August 2009 1230 hours.			
14.	Name & address of the office, selling tender documents		CMES (Air) Kurmitola, Dhaka Cantt, Dhaka.			
15.	Eligibility of tenderer		MES enlisted 'D' & 'E' class contractors and contractors whose security are cleared by DGFI, contractor to submit up date trade licence, VAT certificate, copy of enlistment & previous experience certificate in the related works, bank statement etc at the time of purchasing of tender documents.			
16.	Brief description of goods or works		As per SI. No. 18 (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f) & (g)			
17.	Brief description of related services		NA			
18.	Lot No.	Identification of lot	Name of work & location	Tender Security amount in the form of Bank Draft/Pay -Order in favour CMES (Air) KTL (Tk)	Price of tender document (non-refundable) (Tk)	Completion time (month)
	NA	NA	(a) Decoration works for all types bldg etc of B/R-I Sub-division under GE (Air) Chittagong.	13,000/-	500/-	12
			(b) Repair and Maintenance works of all types of bldg under B/R-I Sub-Division of GE (Air) Chittagong	15,000/-	500/-	12
			(c) Repair and Maintenance works of all types of bldg under B/R-I Sub-Division of GE (Air) Chittagong	15,000/-	500/-	12
			(d) Decoration works for all types bldg etc of B/R-I Sub-Division under GE (Air) Jessore	13,000/-	500/-	12
			(e) Supply of goods for electric maintenance works of SDO E/M Sub-Division under AGE (Air) PKP	14,000/-	500/-	12
			(f) Supply of goods for maintenance works under SDO B/R-II of GE (Air) Tejaon.	13,000/-	500/-	12
			(g) Supply of goods for maintenance works under SDO B/R of AGE (Air) S/Nagar.	6,000/-	300/-	12
19.	Name of officer inviting tender			Md. Sayedul Islam Khan.		
20.	Designation of officer inviting tender			SE		
21.	Address of officer inviting tender			CMES (Air) Kurmitola, Dhaka Cantt, Dhaka.		
22.	Contact details of official inviting tender			Tel. No. 8752024	Fax No. 8754298	E-mail. No. cmesair@yahoo.com
23.	If the date of selling, submission and opening is disturbed under any unavoidable circumstances, same time & place will be applicable for next working day.					
24.	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any tender or all tenders without assigning any reason.					
ISPR/Air/09/129 GD-3717						