



PHOTO: STAR

Remains of trunks bear testimony to illegal felling of trees beside Jagannathpur-Pagla road at Goishpur in Sunamganj Sadar upazila.

# 100 roadside trees felled in Sunamganj

MINTU DESHWARA,  
MOULVIBAZAR, back from  
Sunamganj

A section of unscrupulous people felled around 100 trees along Jagannathpur-Pagla road in Sadar upazila of Sunamganj district in the last two months.

During a recent visit, this correspondent found a local elderly man collecting felled trees from two sides of Goishpur point of the road for firewood.

Dharakhai, Kunakhali and Mojidpur areas along the road witnessed the same incident during the period.

The Roads and Highways Department (RHD) planted mahogany, eucalyptus and other trees in 21 kilometres area along the road 15 years ago.

Unscrupulous people continued random tree felling through the areas but no initiative has been taken in this regard, said college

student Saiful Islam, a resident of Goishpur village.

Nurul Haque, president of Jagannathpur Upazila Nagorik Forum, said, "Criminals felled at least 100 trees along the road in different areas of Sadar upazila for over last two months but the authorities are yet to take any initiative in this regard."

Farid Ahmed, an employee of Sunamganj RHD, said a gang felled the trees with the help of some

local people at night.

Abdul Karim Kim, general secretary of Bangladesh Poribesh Andolon (Bapa), Sylhet chapter, said criminals continued felling trees, threatening the environment.

Anwarul Amin, executive engineer of RHD in Sunamganj, said they will take legal actions against the persons involved after investigation.

## Trade on Facebook

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e-Commerce Association of Bangladesh (e-CAB) said around 7,500 active Facebook pages were doing business in the country and there were 600 web pages also running online businesses. And all them were affected by the suspension of Facebook in Bangladesh.

On Wednesday, the telecom regulator asked all telecom and internet service providers to stop Facebook, online messaging and calling services WhatsApp and Viber immediately, just after the Supreme Court rejected pleas of top war criminals Salauddin Quader Chowdhury and Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojaheed seeking review of death penalty awarded to them.

Razib Ahmed, president of e-CAB, said f-commerce has completely collapsed after the Facebook blocked. As other online businesses were linked to Facebook, those were also affected.

Next Friday would be Black Friday, the biggest annual sale, and lots of sites had planned to offer 30 to 50 percent discounts and all their plans were almost out the window, said Razib.

All three online entrepre-

neurs said they were aware of the country's current situation and they also want security for all but at the same time they also want their businesses to be secure.

Market sources said the ban on Facebook commerce has had a knock on effect on courier, payment gateways, and tourism business.

"We found lots of Facebook pages running social activities, like blood donations, but they can't do anything now," said Saiful.

State Minister for Telecommunication Tarana Halim said security was the main priority and they were focusing on that.

"We are sorry for the inconvenience of the users, even I am suffering for it but we need to understand the situation," Tarana had said a few days ago.

She said users who use Facebook bypassing the ban were under watch.

"The government has blocked Facebook and online messaging services WhatsApp and Viber until further notice on security grounds. The state authorities have been monitoring the people who are using those with alternatives ways," said Tarana.

In Bangladesh, Facebook use began in the second half of 2006. And currently there are 1.8 crore and counting users.

## Cop arrested for killing wife for dowry

OUR CORRESPONDENT,  
Bagerhat

Law enforcers arrested a police constable on charge of killing his wife at Khalishakhali village in Koyra upazila of Khulna district yesterday, eight days after the incident.

The arrestee is Kawsar Sheikh, 40, a police constable of Gopalganj Police Lines, and son of Intaz Uddin Sheikh of Bemarta village in Sadar upazila of Bagerhat.

On November 12, Kawsar strangled his wife Mina Begum, 34, at his house following an altercation over dowry.

He went into hiding soon after the incident, said Md Mizanur Rahman Khan, officer-in-charge of Bagerhat Model Police Station.

## Security beefed up

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allowed since the afternoon to ply the roads going to Dhaka Central Jail where the two convicts had been kept.

The police and Rapid Action Battalion personnel remained vigilant on Dhaka roads and near the jail. Law enforcers were also seen on the roofs of buildings around the jail.

Besides, platoons of Boarder Guard Bangladesh (BGB) were deployed in major cities, including Dhaka, Chittagong and Rajshahi last evening.

The measures were taken hours after Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal said Salauddin and Mojaheed had pleaded for presidential clemency.

Their long legal battles ended on Wednesday as the Supreme Court dismissed their appeals for review of the

verdicts upholding their death penalty handed down by the International Crimes Tribunals in 2013.

Twenty platoons of BGB deployed in the capital were to remain on duty until this morning, said Mohsin Reza, public relations officer at the BGB headquarters in Dhaka.

Debdas Bhattacharya, additional commissioner (crime and operation) of Chittagong Metropolitan Police, said additional forces had been deployed across the city to prevent subversive activities.

Sixteen teams of special riot force of the police were deployed in the port city, he said, adding they would be on the alert for any untoward incident and conduct raids in different areas.

Additional forces were also deployed in different upazilas of Chittagong district, said

Muhammad Naimul Hasan, additional superintendent of police (special branch) in Chittagong.

A total of 15 platoons of BGB were deployed in Chittagong division around 6:00pm yesterday.

Of those, six platoons in Chittagong city, two each in Lohagara, Satkania and Raozan upazilas and three in Cox's Bazar district, said Lt Col Emarat Hossain, commanding officer of 28 BGB Battalion.

They will be on guard until further instructions, he added.

In Rajshahi, seven platoons of BGB were deployed in the evening, reports our Rajshahi correspondent.

The police were on the alert on roads and in different areas while reserve forces had been kept ready for deployment, said Sushanto Chandra Roy, spokesperson of Rajshahi Metropolitan Police.



PHOTO: STAR

The district office of Jatiya Party in Nilphamari has remained closed since a factional clash centring the mayoral candidature for the upcoming local municipality election left four people injured last week.

## NILPHAMARI MUNICIPALITY

# JP factions face off centring mayoral polls

EAM ASADUZZAMAN,  
Nilphamari

Two feuding factions of Jatiya Party (JP-Ershad) in the district are now facing off centring the ensuing municipality election.

Sources said Shawkat Chowdhury, party's district convener, also lawmaker from Nilphamari-4 constituency and opposition whip in parliament, is leading a faction and supporting the party's member secretary Sazzad Parvez as mayor candidate.

President of district unit of Sramik Jote Bazlar Rahman is a stalwart of the faction.

The rival faction, led by joint convener of the party and former lawmaker Jafar Iqbal Siddiquee, has strong support for Mahub Ali Bulu for his candidature in mayor post.

## SNIPPETS

### Jamaat men held with bombs

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bagerhat

Police arrested two Jamaat men including the ameer of Rampal upazila unit on Friday night. The detainees were identified as Julfikar Ali, ameer of Rampal upazila unit of Jamaat, and Mostafizur Rahman, a Jamaat activist. Officer-in-Charge (OC) Rafiqul Islam of Rampal Police Station said, receiving secret information that the two Jamaat men were planning sabotage activities at Sonatunia Dakhil Madrasa in the upazila, law enforcers raided the madrasa at around 9:00pm arrested them with 10 crude bombs. Police yesterday produced Julfikar and Mustafiz in a court that sent them to jail. Julfikar was wanted in sabotage cases. Meanwhile, police in special drives arrested 25 people from different areas in the district on Friday night and early yesterday.

## World unites

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charter specifically to authorise the use of outside military force within the borders of a sovereign state. It was nonetheless crafted in a way clearly meant to give countries additional diplomatic and political cover and impetus to target IS and eliminate it.

Describing IS as a "global and unprecedented threat to international peace and security," the resolution calls for sanctions and urges countries to step up efforts to cut off the flow of foreign fighters to Iraq and Syria.

The resolution "unequivocally condemns in the strongest terms the horrifying terrorist attacks" in Paris and in Beirut, and also mentions violence in Tunisia, Turkey and Egypt this year.

The action in New York came as the world watched another terror crisis unfold in Mali where Islamic militants stormed a hotel in the capital, Bamako, briefly taking 170 people hostage, before the hotel was stormed by security forces. Among hostages were citizens of China, France and

the United States. 19 people were killed in the assault.

French President Francois Hollande welcomed the adoption, saying the resolution would "help mobilise nations to eliminate Daesh" (IS), which has claimed responsibility for the Paris attacks.

Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius said countries should now find concrete ways to shore up the fight, "either through military action, the search for political solutions or the battle against terrorist financing."

"This resolution is a powerful international recognition of the threat posed by ISIL," said British Ambassador Matthew Rycroft, who chairs the council this month.

The British envoy described it as a "call to action" to member-states to join in international efforts to defeat IS.

Russia's Ambassador Vitaly Churkin stressed that the resolution was a "political appeal" and did not "change the legal basis" for states confronting terrorism.

## Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges  
Road Transport and Highways Division  
Roads and Highways Department

Memo No: 35/RHD.0000.BRT(PD).14.027.2015-1 Date: 19 November 2015

## Invitation for Bids

Date	19 November 2015.
Loan/grant No. and title	2862/2863/2864-BAN: Greater Dhaka Sustainable Urban Transport Project (BRT, Gazipur-Airport).
Contract No. and title	GDSUTP(BRT, Gazipur-Airport) RHD/ICB/PW-01 Upgrading and widening of pavement with provision of BRT lanes and construction of flyovers and BRT stations including access to stations (Ch 0+000 to 2+600 and 7+100 to 20+200).
Deadline for submission of bids	Date: 07 January 2016 Time 11.00am (local time).

1. The People's Republic of Bangladesh ("the borrower") has received financing from ADB, AFD and GEF towards the cost of "Greater Dhaka Sustainable Urban Transport Project (BRT, Gazipur-Airport)." Part of this financing will be used for payments under the contract named above. Bidding is open to bidders from all eligible ADB member countries.

2. Roads and Highways Department ("the employer") invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the construction and completion of "Upgrading and widening of pavement with provision of BRT lanes and construction of flyovers & BRT stations including access to stations (Ch 0+000 to 2+600 and 7+100 to 20+200)" ("the works") which includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Road pavement;
- flyovers;
- Culverts and drainage;
- BRT stations including access to stations;
- Incidental works; and
- Social and environmental safeguards

Time for completion of the works from the commencement date will be 30 months.

3. International Competitive Bidding (ICB) will be conducted in accordance with ADB's single-stage: Two-envelope bidding procedure.

4. Only eligible bidders with the following key qualifications should participate in the bidding:

- Have a minimum average annual construction turnover of \$US 70 million calculated as total certified payments received for contracts in progress or completed, within the last five years;
- Must be able to demonstrate access to, or availability of, liquid assets, lines of credit, or other financial resources (other than any contractual advance payments) to meet the bidder's financial resources requirement comprising:  
- \$US 12 million for the subject works  
- Plus current commitments.
- Participation in at least one contract that has been successfully or substantially completed within the last ten years (counting from 28 days prior to the deadline for bid submission) and where the works (road/highway and PC box girder bridge/PC box girder flyover) undertaken by the bidder are similar to the proposed works and the value of the similar works undertaken by the bidder in one contract exceed US\$ 90 million.

OR

Participation in at least two contracts that have been successfully or substantially completed within the last ten years (counting from 28 days prior to the deadline for bid submission) where:

- the works (road/highway) undertaken by the bidder are similar to the proposed works and where the value of the bidder's participation exceeds \$US 60 million, and
- where the works (PC box girder bridge/PC box girder flyover) undertaken by the bidder are similar to the proposed works and where the value of the bidder's participation exceeds \$US 40 million.
- For any contract executed within the last ten years, a minimum construction experience in the following key activities:
  - a) Placement of 35,000 m<sup>3</sup> of aggregate base course in a single contract;
  - b) Placement of 40,000 m<sup>3</sup> of asphalt concrete pavement in a single contract;
  - c) 50,000 m<sup>3</sup> of reinforced concrete (bridge/flyover) in a single contract;
  - d) Concrete box girder bridge of minimum total length of 500 m on pile foundation including one bridge of minimum span length of 30 m in a single contract;
  - e) Management of traffic on operation road/highway during construction activities of road/highway/flyover for continuous 4 months along a length of road of at least 5 km carrying average daily traffic of at least 10,000.
- Must meet all eligibility and qualification criteria in the bidding documents.

Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the following office and inspect the bidding documents during normal office hours (from 9:00am to 5:00pm local time) on all working days:

- Attention: Mr Md. Afil Uddin, Project Director, RHD, GDSUTP (BRT, Gazipur-Airport)  
Road No-21, House No.-04 (2nd Floor), Sector- 04, Uttara City: Dhaka  
ZIP Code: 1230  
Country : Bangladesh  
Telephone: +880 28932135  
Facsimile number: +880 27711029  
Electronic mail address: pdrhd.gdsutp@gmail.com
- To purchase the bidding documents in English, eligible bidders should:
  - Write to address above requesting the bidding documents for "Upgrading and widening of pavement with provision of BRT lanes and construction of flyovers and BRT stations including access to stations (Ch 0+000 to 2+600 and 7+100 to 20+200)"
  - Pay a non-refundable fee of BDT 30,000 or \$US 400. The mode of payment shall be a Pay Order in favour of Project Director, RHD, GDSUTP (BRT, Gazipur-Airport), Road No-21, House No-04 (2nd Floor), Sector-04, Uttara, Dhaka-1230, Bangladesh.

7. Deliver your bid:

- To the address above
- On or before the deadline: Date 07 January 2016, Time: 11.00am (local time).
- Together with a bid security and described in the bidding documents.

Technical bids will be opened immediately after the deadline for bid submission in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend.

8. The invitation for bids (IFB) is available in the Roads and Highways Department (RHD), Central Procurement Technical Unit (CPTU) and Asian Development Bank (ADB) websites at [www.rhd.gov.bd](http://www.rhd.gov.bd), [www.cptu.gov.bd](http://www.cptu.gov.bd) and [www.adb.org](http://www.adb.org) respectively and DG Market ([www.dgmarket.com](http://www.dgmarket.com)).

9. The employer reserves all rights to accept any bid or to reject any or all bids without assigning any reason whatsoever.

**Md. Afil Uddin**  
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