

Bomb blast in Jessore Jail complex: one injured

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

A man was injured in a crude bomb explosion at Jessore Central Jail compound on Wednesday night.

The victim, Jahidul Biswas Kalu, 40, who earns his livelihood by collecting scrap, is undergoing treatment at Jessore General Hospital with splinter wounds, Sub-inspector of Kotwali Police Station Jahidul Islam said.

Injured Kalu said he received the injury as a crude bomb suddenly exploded with a big sound while he was sorting out scrap from the garbage kept at the jail compound. Jailer Abu Taleb of Jessore Central Jail said being a son of a warden of the jail Kalu has the access for collecting scrap from inside the jail compound.

"We are inquiring about the presence of the bomb," the jailer said.

Cold hits betel-nut farming

Growers in Panchagarh worried as production is likely to fall

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

The recent spell of severe cold and fog in the district caused premature betel-nuts to fall off the trees, and the growers are worried they may not get good production.

Many betel-nut trees have been affected by 'cold injuries,' much to the worry of farmers in the district known for extensive betel-nut cultivation.

District Department of Agriculture Extension Deputy Director (DD) Shamsul Haque said betel-nut trees have been planted on 592 hectares of land in the district in the current season, and the expected production is 3,592 tonnes of betel-nuts.

During a recent visit to betel-nut orchards in different villages, this correspondent saw a large number of premature nuts lying on the ground.

Md Bablu, 52, of Moidandighi village in Boda upazila, told this correspondent that he is worried he will not get satisfactory production from his orchard on one bigha of land as premature nuts are falling off.

Mosharaf Hossain, 35, of Bhoularhat village in Debiganj



PHOTO: STAR

The recent severe cold spell and dense fog caused betel nuts to fall from the trees. The picture was taken from Panchagarh town recently.

upazila, said he has an orchard of 300 betel-nut trees on one bigha of land. Each tree usually produces two pons to four pons (1pon=80

pieces), he said, adding that production will be less this season as the trees were affected by cold injuries.

Mosharaf said he got around 450

pons last year, and sold them for Tk 80,000. Each pon cost between Tk 150 to Tk 200, depending on size and quality.

Like Bablu and Mosharaf, many betel-nut farmers of the district expressed their worries about reduced production.

DD Shamsul told this correspondent that betel-nuts fall from trees every winter, but the number of fallen premature nuts was higher this season due to severe cold and fog.

The nuts stopped falling after improvement in the weather, and production will not be affected drastically, the DD said.

The soil and climate of the district are favourable for betel-nut cultivation, farmers said.

The people of the district traditionally plant betel-nut trees around their homesteads, and many of them also cultivate it in orchards.

Saplings are usually planted in Baishakh and Jaishtha (mid-April to mid-June) months of Bangla calendar and the yield starts after three to four years, growers said, adding that two to four pons of betel nuts are usually got from each tree.

No rape evidence found in 2nd test

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Natore

No symptom of rape was found in the medical test of a schoolgirl, said Dr Ismat Nasrin, medical officer of Natore Sadar Hospital, on Wednesday.

No symptom was found in the second test performed on the victim as it is too late since the incident took place on January 24, she said.

"I think it will be better to form a medical board with experts to investigate the matter," said the doctor.

Earlier on the day, the nine-year-old girl was sent to the hospital for fresh medical test following a court order.

"It is an under-trial matter. If the court orders us to investigate further, we will do that," said Azizul Islam, civil surgeon of Natore.

On January 24, neighbour Mahabur Rahman, 16, allegedly raped the girl at his house. Later, she was sent to Baraigram Upzaila Health Complex for medical test.

But Dr Doly Rani of the health complex did not find any evidence of rape in the test.

Later, the victim's father filed a petition with the court for a fresh medical test, said police.

SSC examinee Mahabur, accused in the rape case, is now on bail, said Shahriar Khan, officer-in-charge of Baraigram Police Station.

It will be better to form a medical board with experts to investigate the matter," says the doctor.

INVITATION FOR TENDER

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Syed Abdul Mazid
General Manager

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World Food Programme

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INVITATION FOR
Expression of Interest
FROM INTERESTED COMPANIES FOR SUPPLY OF FOOD COMMODITIES
(RICE, PULSES, SUGER, SALT, VEGETABLE OIL & HIGH ENERGY BISCUITES)

The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) invites applications from interested Traders, Wholesales, Producers, Millers, Manufacturers for enlistment with WFP as its vendor for supplying of food commodities (Rice, Lentils/Pulses/Yellow Split Peas, Suger, Iodized Salt, Fortified Vegetable Oil) and processed food (High Energy Biscuites). Conditions for entry into the process and the documents required to be submitted are given below:

Conditions for Consideration:

- Food commodity must be suppliers' core business
- Suppliers having their own trading house/milling unit with valid trade licence, import licence
- Suppliers having milling house should have the capacity of production per day/MT
- Minimum 5 years experience in running the business
- Should have experience in working with Government, International NGO and National NGO with reliable reputation
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- Supplier should mention about the sister concerns/subsidiary agency if any, with appropriate proof
- For the supply of Biscuits, those who are interested must have their own manufacturing facility.

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Those who are interested in registering with WFP are requested to submit the completed and signed WFP's Registration Form (original) along with copies of above listed documents in a sealed envelope marked **"Expression of Interest for Enlistment as Supplier" by 8 March 2018 (04:30 pm)** to the following address:

Head of Supply Chain and Emergency Response Preparedness
World Food Programme, IDB Bhaban (16th Floor)
E/8-A, Rokeya Sarani Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207

WFP's Registration Form for Food Supplier and Traders is available in the following link: <https://goo.gl/xnmvCn>

For any further information and if the above link does not open, please contact Procurement Unit, World Food Program, Dhaka through the email below: ban.foodprocurement@wfp.org

Please note that this is not an Invitation To Tender. Rates/prices are not required at this stage, and this invitation does not bind the World Food Programme to issue any tenders or contracts to the companies expressing their interest.

LAND ACQUISITION IN MYMENSINGH

Fresh notice served, one activist held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Police yesterday detained an alleged activist of the movement that has continued agitation demanding a 'fair' list for land acquisition in Mymensingh Sadar upazila for development work of the new divisional headquarters.

A team, led by Additional Deputy Commissioner AKM Galiv Khan, accompanying 40 policemen led by Khandaker Shaker Ahmed, officer-in-charge (OC) of Kotwali Police Station, reached Rishipara in Char Ishwardi union of Mymensingh Sadar to distribute notices for land acquisition in the morning.

"Hearing the team's arrival, hundreds of people from adjacent villages gathered on the roads. Some agitated people hurled brickbats at police, causing injuries to a constable. Abul Kashem, 35, president of Jubo League's Char Gobindapur unit in Char Sirta union, was picked up for his alleged involvement," said the OC.

The team left the area after distributing some notices meant for the land owners, he said.

Under the banner of 'Basatbhita Rokkha Committee', thousands of people of seven villages in char areas of Mymensingh Sadar upazila have continued movement for one and a half years demanding cancellation of the administration's alleged 'unfair and motivated' acquisition list.

At a meeting at Joy Bangla Bazar yesterday noon, the committee leaders demanded immediate release of Kashem.

"If he is not released by Friday, we will go for tougher movement," said Syed Mosharraf Hossain, convener of the committee.

The committee leaders said the administration first prepared a list of 1,220 acres of land for development of the divisional town but they later published a fresh list comprising 4,366 acres where most people are small and marginal farmers and sharecroppers.

There are some 60,000 people involving 17,000 families and 28,000 households, 475 family graveyards, six public graveyards, 30 government and non-government primary schools, three high schools, 47 mosques, four temples and six eidgah grounds in the area under the new list, they said.

Seized medicines misappropriated

Trader blames drugs superintendent in Lalmonirhat

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

A huge quantity of medicines seized from Thanapara in the town on January 16, on the charge that those were fake and adulterated, have allegedly been misappropriated.

Medicine trader Ratan Chandra Roy of the town said he has been doing medicine business for one year. "I purchase medicines from Desh Pharmaceuticals Ltd in Dhaka and supply those to local pharmacies in different areas of the district," he said, claiming that the Superintendent of Drugs of the Drug Administration in the district seized medicines worth about Tk 1,40,000 when he (Ratan) refused to give him Tk 30,000 as bribe.

Ratan said Superintendent of Drugs Mehedy Afzal and three other people raided his residence on January 16 and seized the medicines, saying those were fake and adulterated. "I refused to pay the demanded bribe, so I have not got back the medicines till now," he said, adding that the seized medicines were not fake or adulterated.

"As I thought the medicines were fake and adulterated, I seized those in presence of local people and journalists," Mehedy said. He rejected the allegation about demanding bribe from Ratan.

"I did not take any legal step against Ratan as I was stopped by my superior authority in Dhaka," he said. "On the order from my superior authority I handed over the seized medicines to the company's representative a week after seizing those," he said.

When Mehedy was asked who was the company's representative he kept silent. He said he did not hand over the seized medicines to Ratan as Ratan did not contact him. Mehedy also did not disclose the identity of his superior authority.

"I tried several times to contact Mehedy, but failed. If I do not get back my medicines by the end of February I will go to the court, seeking justice," Ratan said.

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A day long Training Session will be held at the DIU Permanent Campus, Ashulia (with transportation and accommodation facilities) after written examinations. Only short-listed candidates will be invited for an interview.

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INVITATION FOR TENDER

Invitation Ref. & date: BIRDEM/Purchase/2018/08 Dated: 19 February 2018

01.	Name of works	Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of electro medical equipment & electronic devices for BIRDEM General Hospital.
02.	Details of work	Procurement & Commissioning of following equipment- Lot: A – Database Server. Lot: B – Fundus Camera with Angiogram Machine. Lot: C – Operating Head Light & Light Source. Lot: D – C – Arm Machine.
03.	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (OTM).
04.	Source of fund	BIRDEM General Hospital.
05.	Name, designation & address of official inviting tender	Director General, BIRDEM General Hospital, Shahbag, Dhaka-1000.
06.	Name & address of the office selling tender documents	Procurement Section, Room: 230, 1st Floor of OPD Building, BIRDEM General Hospital, Shahbag, Dhaka-1000.
07.	Date of selling of tender documents	Tender documents will be available from 24 February 2018 to 27 March 2018 on all working days (09.00am to 01.00pm).
08.	Prebid meeting	A prebid meeting will be held on 15 March 2018 in the Room No: 246 at 12.00 hrs.
09.	Tender closing date	29 March 2018 (from 08.00am to 12.00 noon).
10.	Tender opening date	29 March 2018 at 12.30pm (in presence of the tenderers or their authorized agent, if anybody available).
11.	Price of tender document	Tk 2,000/- (two thousand) only for each lot.
12.	Tender security	3% of the quoted amounts have to be deposited in the form of Demand Draft or Pay Order from any local commercial bank in favour of Director General, BIRDEM General Hospital.
13.	Eligibility of Tenderers (a) The tenderers should be manufacturer or their authorized supplier/distributor or dealer of the items. (b) The tenderers must have updated trade license, TIN, VAT & Income Tax certificate. (c) Other terms & conditions have been mentioned in the tender schedule.	
14.	Detail specification, warranty & after sales service of the equipment is enumerated in the tender schedule. Each lot will be evaluated separately.	
15.	BIRDEM authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof.	

Note: In case of holiday or any unavoidable circumstances last date of dropping & opening of the tender will be the next working day.

Prof Nazmun Nahar
Director General
BIRDEM General Hospital

D-68