



Intraco Solar Power Limited, a private company, is setting up a plant to generate 30 megawatts of solar power on the Teesta river bed at Char Sholmari village in Lalmonirhat's Kaliganj upazila.

PHOTO: STAR

## Running ramshod across the river

S DILIP ROY, Lalmonirhat

Flouting rules, a private company is constructing a road on the Teesta river bed in Lalmonirhat's Kaliganj upazila, posing a risk of severe floods and river erosion upstream.

Although the illegal road construction on river land has been going on in full swing on the occupied river land, the administration is only now saying they will investigate the matter.

The company, Intraco Solar Power Limited, is setting up a plant to generate 30 megawatts of solar power on 110 acres of land at Kaliganj's Char Sholmari village. It aims to start operations by December this year or early next year, said company officials.

In order to connect the project area with the main road, the company is constructing a

1.7-kilometre-long and 4.5-metre-wide road, which include 18 culverts and two steel bridges, at an estimated cost of around Tk 4 crore, they said.

But the construction has evoked outrage among villagers as they fear the road may cause severe floods and river erosion upstream which, in turn, may potentially harm their homes and land.

"The flow of water will be disrupted if the road is constructed. As a result, severe floods and erosion may occur upstream," said Soleman Ali, a farmer in Sholmari Char.

If river erosion takes a severe turn, many families in the area will lose their homesteads, he added.

However, the project's adviser Ashikur Chowdhury claimed that they are constructing the road to facilitate movement of the

villagers.

The 18 culverts and two steel bridges will be constructed on the road so that water flow is not obstructed, he said, also claiming that the construction works do not require permission from the Water Development Board (WDB) because they are not taking place "in the river".

Lalmonirhat WDB Executive Engineer Mizanur Rahman however dismissed this claim, saying the construction of any structures on the river or the river bed requires permission from WDB. The company does not have any permission in this matter, he stated.

Termining the construction "illegal", he also echoed the villagers' worries over severe floods and river erosion upstream if the road is constructed.

However, he said, the WDB does not have any jurisdiction to take legal action which falls under the purview of the local administration.

"We have visited the spot and already submitted a report to the deputy commissioner's office with recommendations to take action," he told the Daily Star earlier this month.

Contacted, the district's DC Abu Jafor said he had received the WDB report and subsequently, formed a five-member probe body to investigate the matter.

"But the investigation now remains halted due to the lockdown. We have verbally asked the company to stop the road construction works."

Further steps will be taken after investigation, the DC added.

## Tangail hospital fire: Burned ICU yet to be restored after eight days

Probe body submits report, blames non-stop use of high flow canula behind the fire

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

The Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of Tangail General Hospital, damaged after catching fire, has yet to resume functioning eight days into the incident.

As a result, critical corona patients have been shifted to other places since the day.

On the other hand, as the ICU is yet to become operational, tension was prevailing among the corona infected patients, their relatives and district residents.

Asked about the matter, Dr Abul Fazal Mohammad Shahabuddin, civil surgeon in Tangail, said that the workers of the Public Works Department have already completed the repairing works of the electrical wiring of the damaged ICU unit.

"Later, a technical team from National Electro Medical Equipment Maintenance, Workshop, and Training Center in Dhaka came to the hospital a day before the Eid and worked on other issues including oxygen supply. It will be possible to reopen the ICU after a team of experts from there comes by tomorrow (Saturday) and gives the green signal after checking everything," he added.

Dozens of patients were whisked off Tangail General Hospital by their panic-stricken relatives on July 15 after a fire broke out at the hospital's Intensive Care Unit (ICU).

The patients had to take shelter beside a road near the hospital. Some critical Covid patients gasped for air without adequate oxygen support.

One of them died after suffering a cardiac arrest.

The next day, one of the patients, discharged from the ICU, died and five were sent to other hospitals. On the same day, a five-member committee headed by Additional District Magistrate Sohona Nasrin was formed to probe the fire incident and directed to submit the report within three days. The committee investigated the incident and submitted a report to the Deputy Commissioner (DC) within the period.

DC Dr Ataul Gani said that the investigation report stated as a standard protocol a high flow cannula needs break to function normally but it was used non-stop, got overheated and caught fire.

To avoid such accidents, the probe committee made a number of recommendations, including engaging skilled and trained manpower to run the ICU. "We have already sent the investigation report and recommendations to the concerned departments, including the Ministry of Health," he added.

Dr Khandakar Sadequr Rahman, assistant director of Tangail General Hospital, said that as per the recommendation of the investigation committee, he and several other doctors and staffers of the hospital have already been taking the training.

Notably, the prime minister on April last year directed to set up 10-bed ICU at all district hospitals and later the ICU unit was inaugurated at the hospital on May 2 this year.



FILE PHOTO



Construction work of Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant Project, the country's first nuclear power plant, is going on in full swing and expected to be completed within the schedule time.

PHOTO: STAR

## 40pc of Rooppur Nuke Power Plant project completed

No work suspension amid pandemic

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, Pabna

Even though the Covid-19 pandemic is showing no sign of stopping, there has been remarkable progress in the Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant project, with nearly 40 percent of its construction work being completed.

A reactor is likely to be set up in the first unit building by September 16, Yafes Osman, minister of Science and Technology, told The Daily Star.

During the pandemic over the last one year, the power plant project has seen a remarkable progress as per the schedule, the minister said while visiting the site recently.

Alongside the first unit, work on the second unit is also progressing smoothly, the minister said.

The reactor pressure vessel, complete with a nuclear reactor and steam generator -- the key components of the first unit of Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant -- had arrived on October 20 last year.

"Since the start of the pandemic, Rooppur nuke plant's work has been running following health

guidelines... We have taken steps to bring all of the employees of the project under vaccination programme," said Yafes Osman.

The Russians working at the project are getting Russian vaccine "Sputnik V" while its Bangladeshi officials and engineers are also getting the same vaccine with the help of Russia, the minister said.

Talking to this newspaper, Dr Shawkat Akber, project director of Rooppur nuclear power plant, said over 30,000 workers -- including over 25,000 locals -- are working for the project everyday. The project authority is strictly following hygiene rules for all of them.

"For workers' safety, we have opened observation and isolation centres at the project site," said the project director.

"We are regularly monitoring every worker's health twice a day. If anybody is infected or found with any symptom, they and those around them are taken to the centres. They are also provided with necessary

medical support," he added.

Dr Shawkat said they are not pausing the project even as the pandemic worsens. "We have already completed 38 to 40 percent of the country's biggest development project and are expecting to complete the work as per schedule."

Two units of 1,200 MWe VVER each are to be built at Rooppur under the Russian design, giving priority to the highest safety measures. Unit-1 is scheduled to be commissioned in 2023 while commissioning of the second unit is slated for 2024 to produce 2,400mw of electricity from the two units.

In February, 2011, Rosatom, the state atomic energy corporation of Russian Federation, signed an agreement with the Bangladesh government to build the nuke plant at Rooppur in Pabna's Ishwardi. It will be the country's first nuclear power plant.

The initial contract for the project worth of \$12.65 billion was inked in December, 2015.



ESSENTIAL DRUGS COMPANY LIMITED

395-397, Tejgaon Industrial Area  
Dhaka- 1208

Local Re-Press Tender Notice



Tender ref.: EDCL (KELP)/PUR/LT/DTW/2021/272

Dated 25/07/2021

EDCL invites sealed tenders from the WASA Enlisted Experienced Contractors / well experienced Contractors enlisted with Deptt. of Public Health Engineering (DPHE) for supply & Installation of Deep Tube Well at Khulna Essential Latex Plant (KELP) which as details below:-

Name of Work	Earnest Money	Cost of Tender Schedule	Last date of Closing & opening
Supply & Installation of Deep Tube Well System with Submersible Pump at Khulna Essential Latex Plant (KELP). (Details as per BOQ, Drawing & Time/Work Schedule).	@2.5% of total Quoted Amount.	Tk. 1000.00/set Non-refundable	Closing :24/08/2021 at 12.00 PM Opening :26/08/2021 at 12.15PM

Tender schedule will be sold from the Accounts Department of Essential Drugs Company Limited(EDCL), Dhaka and Khulna Essential Latex Plant(KELP), Mattomdanga, Gilatola, Khulna on payment as stated above during office hours on all working days (except Friday, Saturday and Govt. Holidays). No tender schedule will be sold on the opening date of the tender.

The tender will be accompanied by an amount of Earnest Money as mentioned above in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order from any Schedule Bank of Bangladesh in favor of "Essential Drugs Co. Ltd." without which the tender will be considered as non-responsive.

The interested bidders may drop their offer along with relevant papers to the tender box kept at the purchase Department of EDCL, Dhaka & KELP, Khulna till 12.00PM on 24/08/2021, which will be opened on 26/08/2021 at Dhaka office at 12.15PM (Subject to receive of offers from KELP) in presence of the bidders/their representative (if any).

General Manager  
Procurement Deptt.  
For : Managing Director

Size- 5 x 4 col.

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ফোনঃ ০৩১-২৮৬৩২৩২

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স্মারক নং-৩৫.০১.১৫৪১.৪০৮.১৪(২).০০১.২১-৩০৭০

তারিখঃ ২৫/০৭/২০২১খ্রিঃ

সীমিত দরপত্র পদ্ধতিতে (LTM) ঠিকাদার তালিকাভুক্তির বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এতদ্বারা সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, চট্টগ্রাম সড়ক বিভাগ, চট্টগ্রাম কর্তৃক পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট বিধিমালা-২০০৮ এর আলোকে সড়ক ও জনপথ অধিদপ্তরের পরিচালনা (রাজস্ব) বাজেটের আওতায় সীমিত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি প্রয়োগের মাধ্যমে প্রতিক্ষেত্রে ৫০.০০ (পঞ্চাশ) লক্ষ টাকা পর্যন্ত প্রাক্কলিত মূল্যের অভ্যন্তরীণ ক্রয়কার্য (NCT-Works) সম্পাদনের লক্ষ্যে ২০২১-২০২২ অর্থবছরের জন্য ঠিকাদার তালিকাভুক্ত করা হবে। সিপিটিইউ কর্তৃক নির্ধারিত আবেদন ফরম নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, সওজ, চট্টগ্রাম সড়ক বিভাগ কার্যালয় অথবা উপ-বিভাগীয় প্রকৌশলী, সওজ, সড়ক উপ-বিভাগ, চট্টগ্রাম/সীতাকুন্ড/ফকিটছড়ি/১ম সারি কারখানা উপ-বিভাগ, চট্টগ্রাম এর কার্যালয় হতে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে সরবরাহ করা হবে। ১০০০.০০ (এক হাজার) টাকা অফেরতযোগ্য পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফট নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয়, সওজ, চট্টগ্রাম সড়ক বিভাগ এর অনুকূলে জমা প্রদান করে অথবা মানি রিসিট মাধ্যমে ১০০০.০০ (এক হাজার) টাকা পরিশোধকরতঃ অগ্রাহী ব্যক্তি/প্রতিষ্ঠান নির্ধারিত আবেদনপত্র (ডকুমেন্ট) সংগ্রহ করতে পারবেন। নির্ধারিত আবেদনপত্র (ডকুমেন্ট) সঠিকভাবে পূরণপূর্বক প্রয়োজনীয় কাগজপত্রসহ আগামী ২৩ আগস্ট ২০২১খ্রিঃ বিকাল ৪.০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে অত্র দপ্তরে জমা করতে হবে।

উল্লেখ্য যে, সীমিত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি প্রয়োগের ক্ষেত্রে পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট বিধিমালা-২০০৮ এর বিধি-৬৩ অনুসরণযোগ্য এবং এ তালিকাভুক্তিকরণ দরপত্র আহ্বান/কাজ প্রদানের নিশ্চয়তা বিধান করে না।

পিন্টু চাকমা

পরিচিতি নং-৬০২২১৯

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জিডি-১৩৬৮