

Thousands of residents of Bhanga municipality in Faridpur have been suffering immensely due to the dilapidated condition of two important roads in the Bhanga Bazar area for a long time.

There are three roads in Bhanga Bazar -- an 800-metre road from the Dhaka-Barisal highway to Bhanga Police Station; a 650-metre road from Eidgah intersection to Manoharpatti area; and a 400-metre-long road from UCB Bank to Kapar Patti.

Of these, the road from Dhaka-Barisal highway to Bhanga Police Station was renovated a few months ago. The two other roads, however, are in a terrible state with numerous potholes making it difficult for people to use them.

During a recent visit to Bhanga Bazar, this correspondent found the roads were muddy, with puddles of rainwater filling up the potholes.

At least 5,000 people use the roads daily while more than 10,000 use it on weekly bazar days- Friday and Monday.

Jalal Mia, a rickshaw-van puller, said the condition of the roads made his strenuous job more difficult.

"Whatever the road condition, people won't pay me extra. The big potholes often leave our vehicles damaged," he said.

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STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A man died and his wife suffered burn injuries in an explosion caused by a gas pipe leak at a house in Chattogram early yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Abdul Khalek, 65. His wife, Anwara Begum, 60, was admitted to Chattogram Medical College Hospital.

The incident took place in Dhupul area around 2:00 am, said CMCH police outpost In Charge Sub-Inspector Nur Alam Asheq.

Their son rushed both of them to CMCH, where Abdul Khalek died of his injuries, he added.

Sanjay Kumar Sinha, officer-in-charge of Bandra Police Station, told The Daily Star that fire service personnel visited the spot and said they found a leak in the gas pipeline.

MINTU DESHWARA, *Moulvibazar*

Traditionally, beans are cultivated during the winter. However, the SAU Bean-1 (Sikribi-1) variety, which has been developed by Sylhet Agricultural University, exhibits remarkable adaptability, allowing it to thrive even during the summer in Moulvibazar.

Now, farmers in the Dengar Ban village of Ashidron Union in the upazila are experiencing substantial benefits from cultivating this winter vegetable during the monsoon season, achieving impressive yields.

As a result of its success, the agriculture department is now eyeing to spread the Sikribi-1 seeds all over the country.

In Dengar Ban village, around 50 farmers are cultivating this variety of bean. While the Sikribi-1 variety takes some time and care to yield a good harvest, farmers may earn up to three



PHOTO: STAR

times the profit from cultivating this, said Masukur Rahman, Deputy Assistant Agriculture Officer of Ashidron Union.

He said the farmers who cultivated Sikribi-1 are happy with the bumper yield and good price in the market. On average, they can pick 48 to 50 kg of beans per bigha and sell them at Tk 130 to 140 per kg.

The profit has caught the attention of other farmers in the area and, with each passing day, more and more farmers are taking up the cultivation of this variety, he added.

Ahsan Habib, a bean grower of Dengar Ban village, said after receiving 12 seeds of the Sikribi-1 variety from the agriculture department, they cultivated it

"We had bumper yields in the first year. So, I collected the seeds and supplied them to several interested farmers in the area for Tk 5,000."

"This year, I myself cultivated the variety in three highas of land. Around Tk 36,000 taka has been spent on fertiliser, irrigation, pesticides, bamboo mats and care during the cultivation phase. So far, I have sold beans worth Tk 1 lakh. I hope the total sale will hit Tk 2-2.5 lakh. But if the market is good, it can go even higher."

Another farmer, Akbar Ali said, "This year, I have cultivated Sikribi-1 variety of beans for the first time. The yield has been very good. I can sell 25 to 30 kg of beans per day. Prices are also high because this is not the season for beans."

He said, during winter, prices of beans drop to Tk 10-12 per kg,

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OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Dinajjpur*

Locals apprehended five individuals attempting a grave robbery at a cemetery in Birganj upazila of Dinajpur on Sunday. The suspects were later handed over to the police and various tools used for grave robbing were recovered from them.

The arrested individuals include Md Lalchan, 30, Md Abdul Sobhan alias Safu, 28, from the same village; Md Farid alias Sheikh Farid, 24; Md Serajul Islam alias Sirajul Islam, 27, from Alinagar village in Mymensingh district and Md Delwar Hossain Babu, 25, from Ashtodhor village of Mymensingh.

Since August 10, three grave robbery incidents have been reported so far in the Birganj upazila.

Additional Superintendent of Police police Md Khodadad Suman of the Birganj Circle stated during a press briefing yesterday that preliminary investigations revealed the involvement of these five individuals in a grave robbery ring that has been active in the region. They allegedly target older graves, aiming to steal human skeletons.

They were caught while attempting to steal skeletons from two to three graves, the police officer confirmed.

Additional SP Md Khodadad Suman added that legal actions have been taken against the suspects, including the filing of regular cases at the Birganj Police Station. Investigations are ongoing to ascertain the extent of their involvement in other grave robbery cases in the region.

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Cumilla*

A youth was beaten to death on suspicion of stealing a mobile phone in Cumilla Sadar upazila on Sunday.

The deceased was identified as Mohammad Babu Alam, 20, of Annanagar in Chandina upazila.

Confirming the death, Additional Superintendent of Police (Cumilla Sadar Circle) Kamran Hossain said there were injury marks on the hands, back, head, and other parts of the body. "We are trying to arrest the people responsible for the incident," the police official said.

Quoting locals, police said a guard named Nahid along with some other persons caught Babu and beat him arbitrarily when he was fleeing after stealing a mobile set from the labour shed of an under-construction building.

When his condition deteriorated, they took him to Cumilla Medical College Hospital, where doctors declared him dead, police said.

Shafiqul, a staff of CMCH's emergency department, said a man brought the body to the hospital around 11:30 am.

“But he was leaving the hospital without giving any details. Then, I caught him and handed him over to the police camp at the hospital,” he said.

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BANGLADESH ELECTION COMMISSION

Identification System for Enhancing Access to Services (IDEA) Project (2nd Phase)
Nirbachan Bhaban (Floor-8)
Agargaon, Dhaka-1207.

Invitation for Re-Tenders

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH			
1	Ministry/Division	Bangladesh Election Commission	
2	Agency	Election Commission Secretariat	
3	Procuring Entity Name	Bangladesh Election Commission represented by Project Director, Identification System for Enhancing Access to Services (IDEA) Project (2 nd Phase)	
4	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka	
5	Invitation for	Office/Support Services (Data Entry Operator under Comilla and Chattogram region) for the Project Office Operations.	
6	Invitation Ref. No. & Date	17.14.0000.240.07.134.2023- 2629	Dated: 28 August 2023
KEY INFORMATION			
7	Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method (OTM)	
FUNDING INFORMATION			
8	Budget and Source of Funds	GoB (Development Budget)	
PARTICULAR INFORMATION			
9	Project / Program Code (if applicable)	224331200	
10	Project Name (if applicable)	Identification System for Enhancing Access to Services (IDEA) Project (2 nd Phase)	
11	Tender Package No.	NCS-6	
12	Tender Package Name	Office/Support Services (Data Entry Operator under Comilla and Chattogram region) for the Project Office Operations.	
		Date	Time
13	Tender Publication Date	29 August 2023	
14	Pre-Tender Meeting Date and Time	05 September 2023	11:30 A.M.
15	Tender Last Selling Date and Time	12 September 2023	04:00 P.M.
16	Tender Closing Date and Time	13 September 2023	11:30 A.M.
17	Tender Opening Date and Time	13 September 2023	12:00 P.M.
18	Name & Address of the office(s)	Address	
	Selling Tender Document (Principal)	Assistant Director (Finance), IDEA Project (2 nd Phase), Room No. 818, Nirbachan Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207.	
NO CONDITIONS APPLY FOR SALE, PURCHASE OR DISTRIBUTION OF TENDER DOCUMENTS			
19	Receiving Tender Document	Conference Room No. 721, IDEA Project (2 nd Phase), Nirbachan Bhaban (Floor-7), Agargaon, Dhaka-1207.	
20	Opening Tender Document		
21	Pre-Tender Meeting		
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER			
22	Eligibility of Tenderer	1. Tender shall have the legal capacity to enter into the contract under the applicable law. 2. Tenderers shall be enrolled in the relevant professional or trade organizations registered in Bangladesh. 3. Tenderers shall have to fulfil its obligation/obligations to pay taxes under the provisions of laws and regulations of Bangladesh. 4. Detail information has been provided in the tender document.	
23	Brief Description of Services	Office/Support Services (Data Entry Operator under Comilla and Chattogram region) for the Project Office Operations.	
24	Price of Tender Document (Tk.)	BDT 3000.00 (Two thousand Five Hundred only) Non-refundable.	
25	Package No.	Identification of Package	Location
	NCS-6	Office/Support Services (Data Entry Operator under Comilla and Chattogram region) for the Project Office Operations.	Dhaka
			Tender Security Amount (Tk)
			30,00,000.00 (Twenty Two Lac)
			Completion Time in Weeks
			26 months or end of the Project which come earlier from the date of signing contract.
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS			
26	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Brigadier General Abul Hasnat Muhammad Sayem	
27	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Project Director	
28	Address of Official Inviting Tender	Identification System for Enhancing Access to Services (IDEA) Project (2 nd Phase), Nirbachan Bhaban (Floor-8), Agargaon, Dhaka-1207.	
29	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	Telephone: 00-88-02-55007594; e-mail address: pd.idea2.bd@gmail.com	
30	The Procuring Entity reserves the right to reject all the Tenders or Cancel the Tender proceedings.		


 Abul Hasnat Muhammad Sayem
 Brigadier General
 Project Director

GD- 1307