



Dead raintrees beside the Satkhira-Ashashuni road. With their frail trunks that can collapse at any minute, the tress that once shaded the locals and left commuters with a serene memory now pose a serious risk of accidents.

PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

# Dead trees a safety hazard on Satkhira roads

DIPANKAR ROY, *Khulna*

Curled up leafless twigs rattling with every breeze and decaying tree trunks crowd the roads of Satkhira.

With little or no care, hundreds of dead raintrees, locally known as Shirish, lay abandoned across nine roads in the district.

Planted about three decades ago, their dried-up frail carcasses now pose a serious risk of accident for commuters.

However, there was a time when these trees use to flaunt their green leaves with the rhythm of winds as locals enjoyed their cool shade.

"The trees started to dry-out about 5-6 years ago. Over a thousand have died so far while many others are counting their final breath," said Abdul Hai, a local who regularly commutes on

the Satkhira-Ashashuni road.

According to Satkhira Zilla Parishad, 307 big trees on both sides of Satkhira-Chandpur road, 227 on Kadamtala-Baikari road, 200 on Kulya-Romnagar road, 147 on Patkelghata-Doluya road, 27 on Jhowdanga-Baliadanga road, 450 on Nazimganj-Nurnagar road, 250 on Shyamnagar-Kashimari road, 200 on Shyamnagar-Nawabeki road, and 270 trees on Satkhira-Kaliganj road are dead.

## THE REASON

Prof Dr Md Kamruzzaman of Khulna University's forestry and wood technology stream told this newspaper that he had inspected some of the dead raintrees near the Khanjahan Ali Bridge on the request of the Roads and Highways department about a decade ago.

He observed insects had infested the trees, making holes into their trunks.

This meant the trees were unable to make any food. All of them died eventually. Failing to identify the pests, he had recommended in-depth pathological research, he said.

But it took years for the authorities concerned to respond. In 2022, some researchers from the Forest Research Institute in Chattogram came to collect samples from the dead trees, said GM Maruf Billah, officer-in-charge of Social Forest Department, Satkhira.

"They found the trees under the attack of 'Lac insects' and these parasites were taking away the trees' natural ability to produce food," he added.

Terming the condition of the trees on Satkhira-Ashashuni road most vulnerable, he said the department now refrains from planting raintrees as these are

more likely to be infested.

## A SAFETY CONCERN

Visiting the Satkhira-Ashashuni and Satkhira-Kaliganj roads recently, this correspondent saw hundreds of dead trees on both sides of the roads.

Multiple partially-broken branches were still seen hanging from the shrunken trunks, waiting to collapse any minute on the pedestrians using the roads.

"The risk multiplies during storms and on windy days. A cyclist was injured last month after a branch fell on him while he was riding his bicycle on the Satkhira-Kaliganj road," said Moniruzzaman, a teacher.

Nazrul Islam, chairman of the Zilla Parishad, said, "The forest department had already finished their survey and pricing. The dead trees will be removed through a tender soon."

## Stay vigilant to BNP, Jamaat conspiracies

Says law minister

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Brahmanbaria

BNP-Jamaat is patronising militant organisations, and people of the country should remain alert to any conspiracies they may hatch, said Law Minister Anisul Huq yesterday.

The minister was talking to journalists after inaugurating a 97-meter-long bridge constructed at a cost of Tk 5.77 crore over a canal at Bongaj village in Brahmanbaria's Akhaura upazila.

Later, he spoke as the chief guest at a public meeting organised at the Eidgah ground.

The law minister claimed there is a threat of terrorist attacks on critical projects and installations, including Padma Bridge, Bangabandhu Tunnel, Elevated Expressway, and television channels.

The minister said BNP-Jamaat is good at creating situations where people would suffer.

"If you (BNP-Jamaat) want to do terrorism, want to destroy the achievements of Bangladesh, then I want to tell you, the law will run its course. The law will be strictly implemented to deal with it," the minister said.

## Pipeline damage halts gas supply to Netrakona

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Gas supply to the Netrakona district remained suspended after a Titas gas line was damaged during a river excavation work on Friday.

According to Titas Gas Authority and Water Development Board, the gas line was damaged during the excavation on the Kangsa river at Char Moilakanda village in Purbadhala upazila around 4:00pm, halting gas supply to all nearly 5,500 subscribers of the district.

Unable to cook, locals are mostly depending on dry foods. CNG-run vehicles were also seen waiting at the station.

A group of engineers from Titas Gas in Dhaka are working to restore the supply, said Md Sarwar Jahan, executive engineer of Netrakona Water Development Board.

Sumangal Golder, manager of Netrakona Titas Gas, told this correspondent around 10:00pm that the supply may resume from early today.

## DHAKA AIRPORT Man arrested with 3.49kg gold

UNB, Dhaka

Customs Intelligence and Investigation Directorate (CIID) detained a man along with 3.498kg of gold from Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport on Friday night.

The detainee was identified as M Masud Imam.

Farhana Begum, assistant director of CIID, said a flight of Emirates Airlines landed at the airport from Dubai around 10:46pm.

Tipped off, a team of CIID challenged Imam and seized 28 gold bars and gold coins worth Tk 3.14 crore from his two bags.

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Chittagong North Forest Division  
Forest Hill, Nandankanon, Chattogram.  
[www.forestnorth.chittagong.gov.bd](http://www.forestnorth.chittagong.gov.bd)



Memo. No. 22.01.707.29.01.24. 341

Dated: 01/02/2024

### e-Tender Notice No. CNFD/SUFAI/2022-2023/GD-7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13

E-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for procurement of

Tender ID No.	Package No	Description	Online Notice Publication date & time	On-line Tender Closing Date
942532	CNFD/SUFAI/2023-2024/GD-7	Supply of Poly-propylene bags for Nursery raising.	4-February-2024 10:00 AM	20-February-2024 1:00 PM
942586	CNFD/SUFAI/2023-2024/GD-8	Supply of Decomposed Cowdung and Loamy Soil for Nursery raising.	4-February-2024 10:00 AM	20-February-2024 1:30 PM
942619	CNFD/SUFAI/2023-2024/GD-9	Supply of Bariala Bamboo, Bamboo Chatai, Sungrass and Temporary Shed Materials for Nursery raising.	4-February-2024 10:00 AM	20-February-2024 2:00 PM
942643	CNFD/SUFAI/2023-2024/GD-10	Supply of Chemical Fertilizer & Pest Control for Nursery and Plantation raising.	4-February-2024 10:00 AM	20-February-2024 2:30 PM
942675	CNFD/SUFAI/2023-2024/GD-11	Supply of Nursery Equipment, Water Supply Materials & M.S.Wire, Planting equipment, Stationery, Seeds, Shootly and RCC signboard materials for Nursery and Plantation raising.	4-February-2024 10:00 AM	20-February-2024 3:00 PM
942701	CNFD/SUFAI/2023-2024/GD-12	Supply of Stakes for Plantation	4-February-2024 10:00 AM	20-February-2024 3:30 PM
942707	CNFD/SUFAI/2023-2024/GD-13	Supply of Decomposed Cowdung for Plantation	4-February-2024 10:00 AM	20-February-2024 4:00 PM

This is an online Tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.

The fees for selling/downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP system portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks branches up to 19-02-2024, 4.00 PM

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP system portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)), +8809609112233, +8801762625528, +8801762625529)

(S.M. Kaisher)

Divisional Forest Officer  
Chattogram North Forest Division  
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## Must protect Chandranath Dham

Speakers tell press conference

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A group of Hindu community people yesterday demanded a ban on tourists at Chandranath Dham in Sitakunda upazila of Chattogram.

The area is a sacred pilgrimage site for the community but now-a-days, a large number of tourists are travelling there, they said.

Only devotees and worshippers should be allowed to visit the area for performing rituals and religious purposes, they demanded.

They came up with a 10-point demand at a press conference organised by Shri Shri Chandranath Dham Rakkha Parishad and Barabkunda Tirtho Dham Unnayan Committee at Chattogram Press Club.

Chinmoy Krishna Das Brahmachari, convener of both the organisations, read out a written statement.

The Barabkunda Dham's priest and worshippers came under attack by miscreants a few days ago, he said.

The attack was carried out to intimidate them as part of a conspiracy hatched by some local influential people to grab the land of the



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### Invitation for Tenders

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH				
1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Posts, Telecommunications and Information Technology		
2	Agency	Bangladesh Satellite Company Limited		
3	Procuring Entity Name	Dr. Shahjahan Mahmood, Chairman and CEO		
4	Procuring Entity Code	Not used at present		
5	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka		
6	Invitation for	Procurement of Supply and Installation of Internal Optical Fiber at Satellite Ground Stations		
7	Invitation Ref No.	14.39.0000.012.07.002.23-21(M)		
8	Date	01/02/2024		
KEY INFORMATION				
9	Procurement Method	Open Tender		
FUNDING INFORMATION				
10	Budget and Source of Funds	Company's Own Fund		
PARTICULAR INFORMATION				
11	Tender Package No.	BSCL/2023-24/PG-17		
12	Tender Package Name	Procurement of Supply and Installation of Internal Optical Fiber at Satellite Ground Stations		
13	Tender Publication Date	04/02/2024		
14	Tender Last Selling Date	18/02/2024 Time: 04:00 PM		
Date				
15	Tender Closing Date and Time	19/02/2024 12:00 PM		
16	Tender Opening Date and Time	19/02/2024 12:20 PM		
17	Name & Address of the office(s)	Address		
	- Selling Tender Document (Principal)	Chairman and CEO		
	- Selling Tender Document (Others)	Bangladesh Satellite Company Limited		
	- Receiving Tender Document	SEL, Rose-N-Dale, Level-07, 116 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1000.		
	- Opening Tender Document			
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER				
18	Brief Eligibility and Qualification of Tenderer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The minimum number of years of general experience of the Tenderer in the supply of Goods as Supplier shall be 2 years.</li> <li>The minimum specific experience as Supplier in supply of Goods of at least one (1) contract successfully completed within the last 1 year, with a value of at least Tk. 1,80,000/- (One Lac Eighty Thousand only)</li> </ul>		
19	Brief Description of Goods	Procurement of Supply and Installation of Internal Optical Fiber at Satellite Ground Stations		
20	Brief Description of Related Services	Supply and Installation of Internal Optical Fiber at Satellite Ground Stations		
21	Price of Tender Document (Tk)	1,000/- (One Thousand Taka)		
22	Lot No	Identification of Lot	Location	Tender Security Amount (Tk)
				Completion Time in Weeks / Months
01	Procurement of Supply and Installation of Internal Optical Fiber at Satellite Ground Stations		1. Sajeb Wazed Satellite Ground Station, Gazipur & 2. Sajeb Wazed Satellite Ground Station, Bethuain, Rangamati.	Tk. 10,000/- (Taka Ten Thousand Only)
				As Per the Tender Document
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS				
23	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Dr. Shahjahan Mahmood		
24	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Chairman and CEO		
25	Address of Official Inviting Tender	Bangladesh Satellite Company Limited SEL, Rose-N-Dale, Level-07, 116 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1000.		
26	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	0241030091-93	procurement@bscl.com.bd	
The Procuring Entity reserves the right to reject all Tenders or annul the Tender proceedings				

GD- 190

(Signed)  
Rehnuma Tarasman  
Manager, Procurement (Additional Charge)  
Bangladesh Satellite Company Limited.

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