

FATALITIES ON ROADS

LALMONIRHAT-BURIMARI HIGHWAY

A 100km long death trap?

S DILIP ROY, Lalmonirhat

The 100-kilometre-long Lalmonirhat-Burimari Highway has become highly dangerous for vehicular movement.

In the last year since March 2023, a total of 43 accidents occurred on the highway, leaving 24 people dead and 48 injured, according to sources at police stations and police control room.

According to officials of Roads and Highways Department, the road – constructed in 1988 connecting Lalmonirhat town with Burimari Land Port, and declared as part of the national highway in 1989 – should be at 10.3-metre wide. However, being only 5.5-metre wide, the road is not spacious enough for the 3,000 vehicles – including goods-laden trucks and passenger buses – plying it daily, said the officials.

Also, with as many as 84 turns and nine railway crossings, the highway seems more like a death trap for people travelling on it.



In the last year since March 2023, a total of 43 accidents occurred on the highway, leaving 24 people dead and 48 injured.

All the railway crossings have gates and gatemen, while four pairs of trains move on Lalmonirhat-Burimari route daily, causing traffic congestion at all the crossings eight times a day.

"I drive trucks on highways across the country, but I haven't seen so many turnings, railway crossings and lack of space on any other highway. We use this route for transporting

goods to and from Burimari Land Port," said Ataur Rahman, 50.

"It takes three and half hours to cross the highways. If there were not so many turnings and level crossings, it would have taken at least an hour less," said Shariful Islam, 48, a truck driver from Lalmonirhat town.

"Driving overloaded vehicles on the road is extremely risky and often accidents happen, especially when two vehicles are passing through the road at the same time," he added.

Mansur Ali, 45, a bus driver from Dhaka, and Akkas Hossain, 50, a resident of Kaliganj upazila of Lalmonirhat who rides motorcycle on the road for commute, echoed the same.

"No other highway in the country has so many turns and level crossings. It is also much less spacious compared to other highways as per design. Due to this it is quite risky for vehicular movement. We have plans to widen the road," said Khalid Saifullah Sardar, executive engineer of RHD in Lalmonirhat.

Seven killed, two injured

STAR REPORT

At least seven people were killed and two others injured in road accidents in four districts in the last two days, according to reports from our correspondents.

In Natore, three people including two brothers were killed and another was injured when a truck hit a battery-run auto-rickshaw at Durgapur Bazar in Singra upazila yesterday, said Md Akhtaruzzaman, an assistant superintendent of police.

The deceased – Hosne Ara Begum, 38, Imran Hossain, 19, and his brother Rabbi Hossain, 15, who was driving the auto-rickshaw – were from Bankura village.

Locals caught the driver and helper of the truck and handed them over to police.

In Gazipur, a CNG-run auto-rickshaw passenger was killed as the vehicle collided with a lorry at Dhaladia in Sreepur yesterday. The deceased could not be identified immediately, said police.

In Munshiganj, a motorcyclist named Abul Hasan Sheikh, 26, was killed in a car-motorcycle collision on Dhaka-Mawa expressway yesterday.

Legal actions are in progress, said In-charge of Hasara Highway Police Station Kanchan Kumar.

In Mymensingh, two motorcyclists, Sirajul Islam, 40, and Mosharrar Hossain, 21, were killed and another was injured in a head-on collision with a private car on Mymensingh-Dhobaura road on Sunday night, said police.

PRICE HIKE

Govt hostage to syndicate: GM Quader

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinaajpur

The government has failed to control the price hike of essentials, said Jatiyo Party Chairman and Leader of the Opposition GM Quader, adding that the government itself has become a hostage to the syndicate.

He made the remarks while talking to journalists in Rangpur yesterday.

"Most of the country's products are import-dependent. Many businessmen in the country do not have the ability to import, only businessmen with money can do so, and many are taking this opportunity. Also, most of those who are involved in importing from outside are at the government's policy-making level. This has already formed a syndicate," said GM Quader.

All these have caused the government to be hostage to the syndicate, he said.

"The government can not control the price hike now, even if it wants to. Without competition among traders, it is not possible to control the market," he added.

Regarding JP's recent crisis, GM Quader said those who are involved with the split in JP are outsiders. Kongkon Karmaker, Monday, 11 March 2024

Health services should reach the marginalised

Says Samanta Lal Sen

STAR REPORT

Health services should reach marginalised people to lessen the mounting pressure on public hospitals, said health and family welfare minister Samanta Lal Sen yesterday.

He was talking to reporters after visiting Rajshahi Medical College Hospital as part of his countrywide tour to monitor health care facilities across the country, particularly at public hospitals.

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Involve women in disaster management

Say speakers at discussion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a roundtable yesterday emphasised timely disaster warnings, suggesting auto shutdown systems for gas, electricity and mobile networks to minimise losses.

They also recommended involving women in disaster management committees.

The discussion, part of Bangladesh's National Disaster Preparedness Day, was organised by BRAC.

Kamrul Hasan, secretary of the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, stressed the importance of adhering to the Bangladesh National Building Code to prevent man-made disasters.

Liakath Ali, director at BRAC, highlighted the significant impact of climate change, noting that over 7 million people have already migrated, with projections indicating that the number of climate migrants could reach 13 million by 2050.

Dilruba Haider, UN Women programme specialist, called for women's inclusion in disaster management at local levels.

KAM Morshed, BRAC senior director, among others, spoke.

Convocation of DIU held

Daffodil International University (DIU) held its 11th convocation on March 10, 2024 at Swadhinata Sommelon Kendra of the university at Daffodil Smart City, Birulia of Savar, Dhaka said a press release.

Education Minister Mohibul Hassan Chowdhury presided over the convocation ceremony and conferred the degrees.

Prof. Franco Gandolfi, Professor of Leadership, Georgetown University, USA attended as the convocation speaker. Prof. Dr. Mohammed Alamgir, Chairman of the University Grants Commission (Additional Charge) was present as the special guest.

Dr. Md. Sabur Khan, Chairman, Board of Trustees, Prof. M Lutfar Rahman, vice chancellor of the university spoke on the occasion. A total of 6,284 students have been conferred upon graduation and post-graduation degrees. Among them, 12 were awarded "Gold Medal" in different categories of Chancellor's, Chairman BoT and Vice Chancellor's Award, based on their outstanding results.

Calls to save Sakha Borak fall on deaf ears

MINTU DESHWARA

Years of reckless illegal encroachment and indiscriminate pollution have left Sakha Borak river in Nabiganj upazila of Habiganj practically on a deathbed.

Once a vibrant lifeline to the residents of Nabiganj, the river is now shrunken to resemble a narrow drain, while being used to dump wastes collected from the municipality.

Local residents from all walks of life have long been calling upon the authorities concerned for urgent steps to clean the river and restore its flow to rejuvenate it to former glory. The authorities, however, seem to have turned a deaf ear to their calls.

"Even 15 years back, boats carrying 500 maunds of cargo, including paddy, bricks, sand and bamboo, used to float in the river. It also drained away rainwater during monsoon. Now, the river is no



longer navigable, and has become a dumping ground for wastes from the municipality's household and kitchen markets' wastes, while becoming a shrunken drain due to encroachment," said Rahim Uddin, 70, a local resident.

Following orders of the then deputy commissioner of Habiganj Kamrul Hasan in March 2020, the

upazila administration, along with the Bangladesh Water Development Board and upazila land office, took initiative to evict the river's encroachers and 101 illegal establishments were identified, said Sony Chowdhury, former secretary of Nabiganj Press Club.

"It was a ray of hope for the

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Holding movements in Ramadan will hurt BNP

Says Quader

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP will become more isolated from people if the party continues staging its political movements during Ramadan, Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader said yesterday.

BNP's public support will continuously decrease in that case, Quader told reporters after a meeting of AL secretaries at its central office on Bangabandhu Avenue.

Regarding commodity prices, Quader said the government is very careful and making all-out efforts to keep the prices under control, within the purchasing power of everyone.

"Even in the context of global crisis, the price of fuel has already been reduced. That did not happen during BNP rule. They can only increase the price," he said.

He also reiterated the government's strong position regarding the perpetrators of violence in the Supreme Court Bar elections.

He said if any crimes and misdeeds are committed under the watch of the government and if the

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

Biman facing

FROM PAGE 3

Between March 26 and March 31, the flight BG-355 will depart Dhaka every Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday at 2:00am local time and reach Rome at 7:00am local time.

From April 1, the flight will depart Dhaka on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays at 3:00am and reach Rome at 9:10am (local times).

The flight will leave Rome at 10:45am and land in Dhaka at 11:45pm (local times).

The minimum one-way fare on Dhaka-Rome route, including all taxes, will be

Tk 64,355 for economy and Tk 1,44,105 for business class, while the round-trip will be priced at Tk 1,04,568 and Tk 258,568 respectively.

On the Rome-Dhaka route, the one-way ticket fare will be Tk 48,788 for economy class and Tk 1,22,663 for business class, while the round-trip will be priced at Tk 89,852 and Tk 2,22,236 respectively.

The flight will be operated with a Boeing 787 Dreamliner.

Biman operated flight with Rome from 1981 till 2015.

Devote more

FROM PAGE 3

Science and Technology Fellowship", "National Science and Technology (NST) Fellowship" and special research donations among teachers, scientists, researchers and students of different universities.

The Ministry of Science and Technology arranged the event at the Prime Minister's Office.

"The people of the country need to be healthy and strong to be meritorious and for their talent to flourish. For that, importance has to be given to medical research," she also said.

Correction

In a report headlined "Convocation of DIU held" published in The Daily Star on March 11, it was mistakenly mentioned that lawmaker Dipu Moni spoke on the occasion. Actually, she was not present at the programme. We regret the mistake.

পরিচালক (পঃ উঃ ও পূঃ) এর কার্যালয়  
যশোর বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়, যশোর  
ফোন: ০২-৪২১৪২১৬৫, ফ্যাক্স: ০২-৪২১৪২১৬৬

No. JUST/PD/168(24)2838 Date: 10/03/2024

OTM (e-GP) Tender for JUST

| Tender ID | Name of Work & Package   | Publishing Date & Time | Closing & Opening Date & Time |
|-----------|--|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 957536    | Supply of Desktop Computer, Computer Printer and Scanner for JUST          | 12/03/2024<br>10:00 AM | 28/03/2024<br>14:00 PM        |
| 957538    | Supply of Photocopy Machine with Desk and Photocopy Machine Toner for JUST | 12/03/2024<br>10:00 AM | 28/03/2024<br>14:10 PM        |
| 957539    | Supply of Lab Equipment for Cel Culture Lab of JUST                        | 12/03/2024<br>10:00 AM | 28/03/2024<br>14:20 PM        |

This is an online Tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in e-GP portal and no offline and hard copy will be accepted. To submit e-Tender please register on e-GP system ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)) and Help Desk Phone No 16575.

(Paritosh Kumar Biswas)  
Director

GD-403 Planning, Development and Works, JUST, Jashore.

ইউ.এম.সি জুট মিলস লিমিটেড  
(বাংলাদেশ পটিকাল করপোরেশন এর একটি প্রতিষ্ঠান)  
নরসিংদী

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বাংলাদেশ পটিকাল করপোরেশন এর নিয়ন্ত্রণাধীন ইউএমসি জুট মিলস লিমিটেড, নরসিংদী এর সিডিউলে বর্ণিত বিভিন্ন প্রকল্পের ব্যবহারযোগ্য মেশিন এবং ব্যবহার অযোগ্য/আনুমান্য/অসংগত/অকেজো মেশিন (যেখানে যে অবস্থায় আছে) বিক্রয়ের নিমিত্ত আনুমানিক দরপত্রের নিকট হতে সিডিউলে বর্ণিত শর্ত সাপেক্ষে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

| ক্রম নং | মালামালের বিবরণ   | প্রতি সেট সিডিউলের মূল্য (অফারের মূল্য) | আর্নেট ম্যানি (ফেরত যোগ্য) | দরপত্র জমার তারিখ ও সময়                                       | দরপত্র জমা দেয়ার স্থান  | দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়  |
|---------|---|---|----------------------------|--|--|--|
| ০১      | সিডিউলে বর্ণিত ডালিকা অনুযায়ী বিভিন্ন প্রকল্পের ব্যবহারযোগ্য ৪৬৭টি মেশিন।  | ৩,০০০/- (তিন হাজার) টাকা                | উদ্ধৃত দরের ১৫%            | ০৮/০৪/২০২৪ তারিখ সকাল ৯.০০ ঘটিকা হতে দুপুর ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত | ক) জেলা প্রশাসক, নরসিংদী।<br>খ) প্রশাসন বিভাগ, ইউএমসি জুট মিলস লিমিটেড, নরসিংদী। | ০৮/০৪/২০২৪ তারিখে জেলা প্রশাসকের কার্যালয়ে দাখিলকৃত দরপত্র সমূহ সম্পূর্ণ যুগ বন্ধ খাম মিলে আনা হবে এবং দুপুর ১.০০ টায় ইউএমসি জুট মিলসের সভাকক্ষে খোলা হবে। |
| ০২      | সিডিউলে বর্ণিত ডালিকা অনুযায়ী বিভিন্ন প্রকল্পের ব্যবহার অযোগ্য/আনুমান্য/অসংগত/অকেজো ১২৮১টি মেশিন (আনুমানিক বরাদ্দ-১০০৩.১৯ মেট্রিক টন)। | ৩,০০০/- (তিন হাজার) টাকা                | উদ্ধৃত দরের ১৫%            |  |  |  |

প্রত্যেক দরপত্রের সাথে বর্ণিত আর্নেট ম্যানির সমপরিমাণ অর্থ যে কোন সিডিউল ব্যাংকের ডিমাট/সে-অর্ডার মাধ্যমে "ইউএমসি জুট মিলস লিমিটেড" এর অনুকূলে অবশ্যই জমা দিতে হবে। অন্যথায় দরপত্র গ্রহণযোগ্য বলে বিবেচিত হবে না।

সম্ভোগজনক কার্য সমাপ্তির পর বিধি অনুযায়ী উক্ত আর্নেট ম্যানি ফেরত দেয়া হবে।

উপরে বর্ণিত কার্যের সিডিউলে আনুমানিক নিয়মাবলীসহ নির্ধারিত প্রতি সেটের মূল্য (অফারের মূল্য) দখল জমা নিয়ে যথাক্রমে (ক) মহানগরস্বাক্ষর (হিসাব ও অর্থ), আনুমানিক কোর্ট, মতিঝিল বা/এ, ঢাকা, (খ) ব্যবস্থাপক (হিসাব ও অর্থ), ইউএমসি জুট মিলস লিমিটেড, নরসিংদী, (গ) বিভাগীয় প্রধান (বিক্রয় ও রপ্তানী) ইউএমসি জুট মিলস লিমিটেড, ঢাকা-১০০৩.১৯ বিক্রয় ও রপ্তানী অফিস, আনুমানিক কোর্ট (৪র্থ তলা), মতিঝিল বা/এ, ঢাকা এর দপ্তর হতে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে দরপত্র দাখিলের পূর্বের কার্যদিবস পর্যন্ত সন্ধ্যা ৬টা পর্যন্ত।

দরপত্র দাখিলের সময় খামের উপর অবশ্যই কার্যের নাম উল্লেখ করতে হবে।

আনুমানিক দরপত্রের সিডিউলে বর্ণিত মেশিনের পরিদর্শন করতে পারবেন। যাবতীয় তথ্য দরপত্র সিডিউলে বর্ণিত থাকবে যা বিজ্ঞপ্তির শর্ত বিধেবে পণ্য হবে। মিল কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ছাড়াই যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ/ব্যক্তিগত করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করে।

বিজ্ঞপ্তি বিক্রয়/এমসি'র ওয়েব সাইট [www.bjmc.gov.bd](http://www.bjmc.gov.bd) চে পাওয়া যাবে।

(মোঃ মতিউর রহমান মন্ডল)  
প্রকল্প প্রধান

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Bangladesh Food Safety Authority  
BSL Office Complex, Bhaban-02 (Level-04, 05 & 06)  
119, Kazi Nazrul Islam Sharak, Dhaka-1000

Memo No: 13.02.0000.511.07.001.22.13 Date: 11 March, 2024

e-Tender Notice No-09/2023-2024

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

| Sl. No. | Tender ID | Description of Procurement Package | Name of Works   | Last Selling Date & Time |
|---------|-----------|------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| 01.     | 959834    | Procurement of Goods               | Procurement of Lab Machinery for the District Offices of Bangladesh Food Safety Authority | 01 April, 2024 16:30     |

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- To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.
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- 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)).

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GD-408