Earthquake protection by Wrap Face Embankment over Soft Land of Bangladesh” on Tuesday, September 28, 2021. The seminar was held in Shaheed Prakashchali Bhaban at IEB Council Hall, IEB Headquarters, Ramna, Dhaka at 5:00pm keeping provision of hybrid mode (physical as well as online through ZOOM system). Engr. Md. Abdus Sabur, Science & Technology Secretary of Awami League & former President, IEB remained present as the Chief Guest while Md. Nurul Huda, President, IEB, Md. Nuruzzaman, VP, IEB and Md. Abdul Rashid Khan, Chief Engineer, LGED as the Special Guest while Prof. Dr. Munazz Ahmed Noor, chairman, civil division, chaired the seminar. The key note paper was presented by Engr. Ripan Hod, Sr. Asstt. Engineer, LGED. Of the learned discussants, Dr. Engr. Mehdi Ahmed Ansari, Professor, Civil Engg. Dept. of BUET took part as the principal discussant.

PM Inaugurates Pani Bhaban

Hon’ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurated newly built Pani Bhaban from Gana Bhaban through video conference. The ceremony was held on October 1, 2020. The massive 12-storied building complex with a space area of 420000 sq.ft. has been constructed with the blend of modern construction

Tunnel Under Karnaphuli River

Construction of Bangbandhu Sheikh Mujibor Rahman Tunnel under Karnaphuli river at Chattogram reached a major milestone with completion of its boring on first week of October, 2021. Seventy-three percent of the physical work for the 3.32km multilane road tunnel is done which will significantly reduce congestion on both sides of the river and shorten time. It will play an important role in improving the Asian Highway Network, strengthening connectivity between Bangladesh and neighboring countries. As told by the project officials they might open the tunnel to traffic much sooner than the original deadline of December 2022. Construction of 5.35km approach roads, road inside the tunnel and setting up utility lines etc are under way. The first underwater tunnel in South Asia, the tunnel will connect southern and northern part of Chattogram district, connect the city and Anwara upazila and will also be used as an alternative road to Cox’s Bazar, Teknaf and Matarbari, opening up economic opportunities for the people in the region. The tunnel is being constructed by China Communication Construction Company Ltd and the total cost is Tk 10374.42 crores of which The Exim Bank of China contributes Tk 5913.19 crores and the rest by GoB.

New CE of PWD

Mohammad Shamim Akhter took over as the Chief Engineer of Public Works Department (PWD) w.e.f. December 14, 2021. A civil engineering graduate of BUET in 1991, he joined PWD as an Assistant Engineer in 1995 and served in various important positions as XEN, SE and Director/Director General of House and Building Research Institute leaving with exceptional professional integrity over a period spanning over two decades. During his tenure of serving as the Director/Director General of House and Building Research Institute he left indelible mark for his exceptional dedication and prompt decision making ability for the development of Building Research works. He earned enviable reputation for his high professional excellence with tremendous insight into the objectives combined with the rare quality of vigorous dynamic leadership. As a sound and committed professional , he possesses exceptional managerial capability with immense creativity in efficient discharging of the responsibilities reposed on him and efficiently running of an organization as the Chief Executive.

Seminar held in IEB

A Seminar was organized by IEB Civil Division recently on “Application of
every Saturday & Wednesday: 06.00 pm – 09.00 pm, 24 hours, 08 classes. Registration Fee: Tk 8000/-, Tk 7500/- for IEB Members, Tk 7000/- for fresh graduate engineers, Last Date of Receiving Nomination: 29 Sept. 2021; Training Lab Lab, ESCB City Campus, IEB Headquarters.

1012. Rajuk Impart Nirman Bidhimala and FAR Calculation (05th Batch): Duration: 05 Oct 2021 to 07 Oct 2021; Time: Everyday: 06.00 pm – 09.00 pm, 36 hours, 09 hours, 03 classes. Registration Fee: Tk 2500/- per participant. Last Date of Receiving Nomination: 01 Oct 2021; Venue: Training Lab, ESCB City Campus, IEB Headquarters.

Residential Complex of PWD

One of the responsibilities of Public Works Department (PWD) is to provide accommodation facility with required maintenance for the employees of different Govt departments. Of such projects, includes execution of erection of a massive 20 storied building complex at Kakrail, Dhaka. The complex has been built for the residential accommodation of Hon’ble Justices of the High Court of Bangladesh. The building is located at a plot of land at 67, Circuit House, Kakrail at the heart of capital city of Dhaka. Each building will have 76 units covering 3500 sft providing all kind of modern residential facilities. It has duly been handed over to the concerned clients after its completion.

Metro Rail’s Roll-out

The country’s first ever metro rail will go on its commercial operation in the Uttara-Agargaon section on Dec, 16, the Victory Day next year (2022). The metro rail authorities will start the partial operation of the new mode of public transport in the country with 10 sets of metro trains. As said by the M-D of Dhaka Mass Transit Company Ltd the

Agargaon-Motijheel section will be operational by Dec, 2023. As per prior announcement, the metro train reached Agargaon station under construction, at 11:00 am which started from Uttara’s Dia Bari depot for the first time during the performance test on December 12, 2021. The elevated rail line is being constructed Between Uttara Section-3 and Motijheel at the cost of Tk 22000 crore. Once completed, it will be able to transport 60,000 people per hour and would reduce travel time from Uttara to Motijheel from about 2 hours to 40 minutes only. A total of 24 trains would be operating on the route when it would be fully functional.

Digital Bangladesh Day 2021

Roads and Highways Department (RHD) took part in the 5th Digital Bangladesh Day 2021 held on December 12, 2021. Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Division chalked out elaborate programs to celebrate the day with the theme “Digital Bangladesh-er Orjon, Upokrito Sokol Jonogon”.

Hon’ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurated the main program of the day and addressed the prize giving ceremony virtually at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre (BICC) from the Gono Bhaban residence. A rally led by Palak brought out from South Plaza of the Jatio Sangsad maintaining social distancing which ended at the Khamarbari intersection. A national seminar titled “Digital Bangladesh-er Orjon, Upokrito Sokol Jonogon (Achievements of Digital and : benefit all people)” held at the BICC while Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Mr. Anisul Huq attended the occasion as the Chief Guest.

EDITORS’ NOTE

The issue contains the news on progress of implementation of metro rail as one of the Govt’s priority project. It also includes brief status of various works relating to civil engineering projects under implementation namely - PWD, LDG, DPHE and RHD etc including inauguration of Panti Bhabanan of BWDB. Besides, it speaks about holding of seminar by IEB and ESCB’s training courses as well. It also includes about the appointment of a new of PWD.