



Left, a four to five-foot-tall marker is left for measurement after the topsoil of the same depth was removed from a large piece of agricultural land near a brick kiln, seen in the background, in Saptana village of Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila. Right, workers removing topsoil from agricultural land near another kiln in Dalgram village in Kaliganj upazila. PHOTO: S DILIP ROY

Uncontrollable Brick Kilns in Lalmonirhat

Use of topsoil threatens agriculture

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Vast tracts of agricultural land in Lalmonirhat are losing fertility as owners of brick kilns, no less than 47 in total, are allegedly compelling landowners to sell topsoil from their farmlands.

In many places, the powerful and influential kiln owners are removing up to five feet of soil from a particular piece of land even though the landowner had agreed to sell only one

After losing the topsoil that

the farmers are spending more money on chemical fertilisers and pesticides than the money they had received in exchange for the topsoil.

chemical fertilisers and pesticides is causing long-term damage to the land, the surrounding waterbodies and ultimately the ecology in the district.

Bidhu Bhushan Roy, deputy director of Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) in Lalmonirhat, said the upper layer of soil up to six village in Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila,

the soil as it helps plants grow. Cautioning farmers about the

negative impact of selling topsoil, he said if four to five feet of Moreover, the excessive use of topsoil is removed from a piece of land, it becomes barren and it might take around 12 to 15 years to regain fertility.

> After visiting areas near several of such brick kilns, this correspondent also found truth in the allegation.

Atiar Rahman, a farmer in Saptana

contains essential nutrients for plants, to seven inches deep is called "life" of said he agreed to sell one foot of land adjacent to Nibaran's land the long run as he could not get good topsoil from his land, but the kiln and removed topsoil from there. As owner removed around four to five feet of topsoil from there.

> the landowners are hostage to the powerful kiln owners, he also said.

> Farmer Nibaran Chandra Burman, from Bamonerbasa village in Aditmari upazila, said he was forced by a kiln owner to sell topsoil from one bigha of his land for around Tk

The kiln owner first bought a piece sale of the topsoil, but he lost more in without being pressurised.

irrigation water from Nibaran's land was seeping out into the kiln owner's Their objections bear no result as land, Nibaran had to agree to sell topsoil from his land.

> Badiar Rahman, a farmer in Dalgram village of Kaliganj upazila, landowners to sell topsoil to kiln said two bighas of his land became owners, Jalal Uddin, a kiln owner barren after he sold topsoil to a kiln ten years ago and the land still Hatibandha upazila, said they prefer remains infertile.

harvest from growing crops on the land since then, he also said.

"I have been using lots of chemical fertilisers, but the land did not regain

Refuting the allegation of forcing in Paschim Bejgram village of topsoil for making bricks, but the He made some money from the farmers sell the topsoil to them

Finally a wooden bridge for 100 villages in Netrakona

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

As a makeshift arrangement, a wooden bridge with bamboo poles on the Sumeswari river in Netrakona's Durgapur upazila has been made for the first time to ease people's longstanding

People of some 100 villages in Kullagara and Gaukandia unions have been suffering for years for want of a bridge on the river at Birisiri point in the upazila.

Especially schoolchildren and critical patients are the worst sufferers due to the communication problem.

The villages include Ranikhong, Khujiura, Kullagara, Shasharpar, Gaukandia, Dhanipara, Chhondhara and Maizpara.

Shubra Sangma, chairman of Kullagara Union Parishad (UP), said as there is no bridge in the area, the lease holders of Birisiri Ferry Ghat made the 500-metre-long wooden bridge in November last year for the first time. It took around 15 days to complete construction of the bridge.

Earlier, the villagers had to face various trouble to reach the upazila and district headquarters but the bridge will now ease their sufferings during the dry season, said Shubra Sangma, adding that motorcycles and CNG-run auto-rickshaws can also ply the bridge.

Some 20 years ago, a fund was sanctioned for construction of a concrete bridge at the point but Boheratoli, Charpara, Boroikandi, Jagotkura, the authorities concerned are yet to take any steps

to build a bridge there, said the UP chairman.

At least the makeshift wooden bridge has brought a sort of relief to thousands of commuters, he said.

Each person has to pay around Tk 10 to cross the bridge, said local people.

Md Bakul Mia, a toll collector of the ferry ghat, said they made the makeshift bridge at a cost of Tk 7 lakh to ease longstanding sufferings of people in the villages.

Mohammd Al Amin, a resident of Dakhhin Bhawanipur village, said "The wooden bridge will be used for four months from December to March and during monsoon, we have to use engine-run boats to cross the river.

Villagers aid during the rainy season, it becomes difficult for them to cross the area due to strong current in the river. The situation worsens when hilly waters from across the border flood the area. 'Due to lack of easy communications,

the villages are separated from the Durgapur upazila headquarters. The areas are still underdeveloped due to poor communication system", said Rasel Mia, a student of Susang Durgapur Government College.

During the rainy season, the problem turned so serious and they have to cross the river on boat amid risk of accident, said Sanjida Akter, an HSC examinee from the same college.

Nazrul Islam, a farmer of Bhawanipur village, said the people of the area are mainly dependent on agriculture, but they are facing serious problems to bring their produces to the markets of the town for years for want of a permanent bridge at the point.

Talking to this correspondent, Executive Engineer of Roads and Highways Department in Netrakona Didarul Alam Tarafder said they are doing feasibility studies for construction of 870-metre-long concrete bridge on the river at Birisiri point.



Officials of Bangladesh Wildlife Service Foundation rescued this Slow Loris, locally known as lajjaboti banor, from Hosnabad Tea Garden area in Moulvibazar's Sreemangal upazila on Monday. The rare primate is now undergoing treatment at Bangladesh Wildlife Service Foundation in Sreemangal. PHOTO: MINTUDESHWARA

Chittagong Dry Dock Limited

Bangladesh Navy

East Patenga, Chattogram, Bangladesh

Phone: +88(031)2501113, Mobile: +8801769744487



The newly built wooden bridge on the Sumeshwari river finally brings relief to people of 100 villages in Netrakona's Durgapur upazila. PHOTO: STAR

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of the Jail Super

Sunamganj District Jail

www.prison.sunamganj.gov.bd

Memo No. 58.04.9000.159.04.034.2020-421

Date: 16-02-2020

This is to notify all concerned that the following tender is invited in the National e-GP Portal.

		removement that the removing terraer r	0 11111100 111 1110 1101	01101 0 01 1 011011
SI No.	Tender ID No.	Name of goods	Publishing date & time	Closing date & time
01	427764	Supply of Unnotamaner Mashur Dal Mota to Sunamganj District Jail for the period of April/2020 to September/2020.	16-Feb-2020 16:30:00	04-Mar-2020 12:00:00
02	427782	Supply of Unnotamaner Cholar Dal to Sunamganj District Jail for the period of April/2020 to	16-Feb-2020 16:30:00	04-Mar-2020 12:00:00

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 downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches up to 12:00 on 04th March 2020

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and

from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

GD-309

Md Abul Kalam Azad Jail Super BJ-02669300190 Sunamganj District Jail 2 0871-61173 (Office)

jailsunamgonj@yahoo.com

BOAT CAPSIZE

Missing woman, son's body found in Chattogram

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

Police yesterday recovered the bodies of a woman and her minor son, who went missing after a tourist boat capsized in the Karnaphuli river under Kaptai upazila on Friday, from Rangunia upazila of Chattogram, after four days of the incident.

The deceased are Tumpa Majumder, 30, wife of Rajib Majumder of Jorarganj area in Mirsorai upazila of Chattogram, and her five-year-old son Bijoy Majumder.

Officer in Charge of Rangunia Police Station Saiful Islam said villagers spotted the bodies beside a small river in the locality and informed them around 10:30am yesterday. Being informed, they went to the spot and recovered the

They already handover the bodies to deceased's family

members, he added. Earlier on Friday evening, divers recovered the body of

Tumpa's 10-year-old daughter Debleena Majumder from Karnaphuli river. The trio went missing after a tourist boat, with 50

passengers on board, capsized in the river on Friday noon.

1. 2. 3. 4		curing entity name			
3.	Invit		Chittagong Dry Dock Limited, Bangladesh Navy.		
	Invitation for		Tender		
4	Invitation Ref. No.		23.02.1565.341.53.004.20.972		
	Project name		Replacing Roof Sheet, Flashing, Trims & Downspouts of Machine Sho and Fabrication Shop at CDDL Project Area.		
5.	Budget and source of funds		Own Fund of Chittagong Dry Dock Limited.		
6.	Tendering method		Open Tender Method.		
7.	Eligibility of tenderers		Required eligibility criteria have been mentioned in the tender schedule.		
8.	Price of tender document		Tk. 2,000 (two thousand taka only) (non-refundable).		
9.	Amount of tender security		5,00,000/- (five lac only) in the form of Pay Order/Ban Draft/Irrevocable Bank Guarantee in favour of "The Managing Directo Chittagong Dry Dock Limited" issued by a scheduled bank of Bangladesh.		
10.	Name & address of the office(s) for selling, receiving and opening of tender documents				
	a.	Selling tender documents	Cash Section, Accounts Department, Chittagong Dry Dock Limite Bangladesh Navy, East Patenga, Chattogram.		
	b.	Receiving tenders	Office for the Officer in Charge (Civil), Chittagong Dry Dock Limite Bangladesh Navy, East Patenga, Chattogram.		
	C.	Opening tenders	Office of the General Manager (Ship Repair and Maintenance Chittagong Dry Dock Limited, Bangladesh Navy, East Patenga, Chattogra		
11.	Tender selling last date and time		08-03-2020, 3:00pm		
12.	Tender closing date and time		09-03-2020, 11:00am		
13.	Tender opening date and time		09-03-2020, 11:15am		
14.	Brief description of works		Replacing roof sheet, flashing, trims & downspouts of machine she and fabrication shop at CDDL project area.		
15.	Contact details of official inviting tender		Phone: +8801769-744487, Fax: 880-31-2501123 E-mail: drydock.bd@gmail.com		
16	Special instructions		The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all or any tender prior acceptance without showing any reason. If it is not possible to open the tender on the scheduled date for any unavoidable circumstances, the same will be opened on the next working day at the same time at same venue.		
			Managing Director Chittagong Dry Dock Limited		