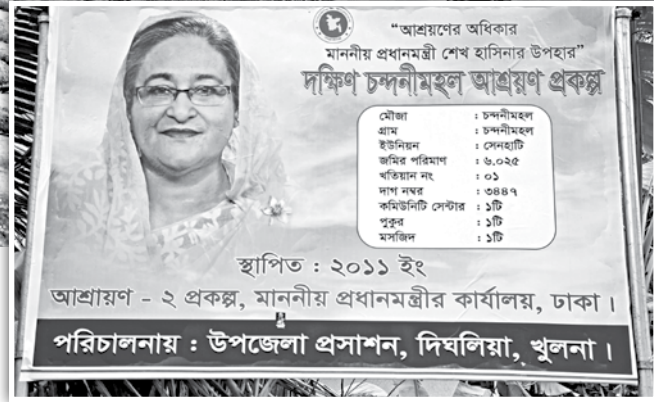




Geotextile sand bags were dumped on the Atai river bank where a barrack of 'Dokkhin Chandonimahal Ashrayan Prokolpo', *Inset*, a government housing project for the landless in Digholia upazila of Khulna, was damaged due to erosion.

PHOTO: STAR



ASHRAYAN-2 PROJECT IN DIGHOLIA

The landless afraid of being homeless again

DIPANKAR ROY, Khulna

As many as 150 families sheltered at Ashrayan-2 project in Digholia upazila are living under threat of erosion.

Under the name 'Dokkhin Chandonimahal Ashrayan Prokolpo', a total of 150 houses were built eight years ago beside the Atai river, filling up government land with sand in South Chandonimahal village of Senhati union.

With five houses in each row, there are 30 rows, identified as barracks. Residents of Barrack 16 were evacuated recently when a sizeable portion of it, about half, was damaged due to the erosion of the Atai.

Residents of the adjacent row, Barrack 15, are now passing days in fear of further destruction by the river.

Dilip Biswas, a former resident of Barrack 16, said seven months ago, after seeing first signs of erosion, he along with his five family members moved out of the barrack and took shelter in a neighbouring barrack.

The Atai washed away his and several others' houses within a few days after they evacuated the barrack.

"I used to live in a hut by the river as I didn't own any land. After the Ashrayan project was developed eight years ago, I got a house for my family. But now, my house is lost to the erosion of the river and I am homeless again," he lamented.

Barrack 15 resident Mrittunjoy Mondal said when the project was completed, the river was a few hundred feet away. But unexpectedly, about two years ago, the river started eroding its bank beside the Ashrayan.

After a significant portion of the project area started to disappear in the river, "we went to many places, including to the offices of the chairman of the local union parishad and the upazila nirbahi officer (UNO), and sought protection from the erosion. But no one came forward to help us," he alleged.

Although the authorities started dumping geotextile sand bags alongside the project area six months ago, the Ashrayan residents cannot stop but worry about what would happen to their shelters when the water level will rise in the river during the upcoming monsoon.

Many of the residents this correspondent spoke with said the Ashrayan project in south Chandonimahal village was destined to be a failure as it was built on sand near close proximity of the river and it lacks a proper drainage system.

During every wet season, sand from the project compound washes into the river, making it susceptible to further erosion. And for these reasons, most of them were worried that the entire Dokkhin Chandonimahal Ashrayan Prokolpo might disappear into the river sooner or later.

Jayanti Roy, president of the residents' association at Dokkhin Chandonimahal Ashrayan Prokolpo, said they approached the administration multiple times, urging steps to protect their homes, but "no one listened and nothing was done".

"The residents of the project would not live in such risk if due steps were taken in due time to prevent the erosion," he added.

Contacted, Gazi Ziaur Rahman, chairman of Senhati Union Parishad, said they informed all authorities concerned, including Water Development Board (WDB), about the erosion a long time ago.

He also said the WDB has recently started taking steps to protect the area from river erosion.

Polash Kumar Banerjee, executive engineer (in-charge) of WDB at Khulna Division-1, said a large amount of sand, with which the land of the Ashrayan project was filled, is being washed away when it rains heavily or the river's water level rises.

It might be quite difficult to save the Ashrayan project from erosion due to the sand foundation of the project, but they were trying to contain the erosion by using geotextile sand bags along the river.

The WDB has prepared a Tk 198-core project to prevent erosion of the Atai river along 4.50 kilometres of its bank in the area and around Tk 10 core of the funding would be spent on protecting the Ashrayan project, he added.

KILLING WOMAN FOR DOWRY

Four in-laws land in jail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

A Moulvibazar court yesterday sent four members of a family to jail in connection with a case for killing a housewife for dowry at Pallakandi village in Kulaura upazila on Tuesday night.

Earlier, police detained the four -- Tayeb Ali, father-in-law of slain Nasima Begum, his wife Amena Begum, son Ashuk Mia, and Amena's sister Samina Begum -- on Wednesday night after victim's brother Mansur Ali filed a case against six people, Sub Inspector Niranjan Malakar, also the investigation officer of the case, said.

According to the case statement, Jewel Mia, 30, son of Tayab Ali, married Nasima, 23, daughter of Lal Mia, about three years ago.

Although, Nasima's family gave Tk 2 lakh to Jewel as dowry during the marriage, Jewel and his family members had been demanding more money from her parents since a year of their marriage.

On Tuesday night, Jewel and his family members beat Nasima mercilessly when she refused to bring the money from her parents.

Being informed by the neighbours, victim's family and rescued her and admitted her to Moulvibazar Sadar Hospital, where she died the same night.

Officer in Charge of Kulaura Police Station Eardous Hasan said they were conducting drives to arrest the other accused of the case.

A canal dying

Barishal's Varani Khal held hostage by an illegal dam

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barishal

To stop erosion by the Karkhana and Pandob rivers, a group of local people have built an illegal dam in Varani Khal (canal) halting natural flow of the water at Sundarikathi village in Barishal's Bakerganj upazila.

Locals built the temporary structure using bamboo and tree branches in January, said Golam Morshed Khan, chairman of Dudhal union parishad (UP).

Due to construction of the illegal dam, the three-km-long canal connecting the rivers in the union is now completely blocked, said some villagers.

The canal has become almost dead due to obstruction of natural flow of the water, they said.

A number of houses and vast tracts of croplands have been washed away every year, said Zahir Molla, an erosion victim of Sundarikathi.

The canal eroded two sides of the village during every monsoon, said residents of the area, adding that due to this, they built the makeshift dam by collecting Tk 1,000 to Tk 2,000 from some 100 erosion victims each.

Some villagers put bamboo fences and tree branches across the canal to save thousands of people from river erosion during the rainy season, said locals.

Blocking of the canal to stop river erosion has been badly hampering irrigation for crop cultivation, said Rajib Shikder, a resident of Purbo Goma village.

Contacted, Assistant Commissioner

(Land) Tariquul Islam said he has recently visited the area and found the makeshift dam in the canal.

It is totally illegal to hamper natural water flow of the canal, he said, adding, that locals have no right to block the water body.

Md Masud Khan, executive engineer of Roads and Highways Department in Barishal district, said it is not possible to stop river erosion by halting natural flow of the canal.

Bakerganj Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Madhobi Roy said it is totally illegal to hamper natural water flow of a canal.

They will take action in this regard, said the UNO.

They will take steps to free the canal immediately, said the assistant commissioner.



A group of local people build an illegal dam in Varani Khal of Barishal's Bakerganj upazila to stop erosion by river.

PHOTO: STAR

2 get life term for rape, murder

Man held on rape charge in Jamalpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

A Tangail court yesterday sentenced two people to life term imprisonment in a case filed for killing a teenage girl after rape in 2016.

The convicts are Noor Mohammad, 65, of Kalihati upazila, and his accomplice Nazma Begum, 32, of Basail upazila.

Tangail Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal Judge Khaleeda Yasmin also fined the convicts Tk 1 lakh each.

Victim Asha, 19, daughter of Abdul Alim of Foilar Ghona village in Kalihati upazila, who used to live at her maternal grandfather's house at Enayetpur in Tangail town since her mother's death, went missing on October 18, 2016, Special Public Prosecutor AKM Nasimul Akter said.

After failing to trace the girl's whereabouts, her father filed a case with Kalihati Police Station against some unidentified people, after 10 days of the missing incident.

Later, police arrested Nazma from Basail upazila using mobile tracking technology.

During interrogation, police came to know that Nazma and Noor took Asha at

Dhangora village in Kalihati in name of a personal tour, where Noor raped the girl before killing her.

Following her confessional statement, police arrested Noor Mohammad and also submitted the charge-sheet to the court against the duo on May 31 in 2017.

Away in Jamalpur, police yesterday arrested a man in connection with a case for raping a minor girl in Jamalpur Sadar upazila on Sunday.

The arrestee is Nizam Uddin, 55, a grocer of Bhatipara village in the upazila.

According to the case statement, Nizam, a neighbour of the seven-year-old victim, lured the girl and took her to a room at Bhatipara Family Planning and Health Complex, adjacent to his shop, around 1:30pm and raped her.

Police arrested Nizam from Nandina Bazar yesterday noon after victim's maternal grandmother filed a rape case with Sadar Police Station accusing him on Wednesday afternoon, Officer in Charge of Sadar Police Station Salemuazzaman said.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Divisional Engineer-1
Bangladesh Railway, Dhaka

Memo No. 54.01.0000.207.28.004.19(-) Date: 10-03-2020

e-Tender Notice (Open Tender Method)

e-Tenders is invited in the National e-GP Portal for following procurement. Interested tenderers are requested to visit <http://www.eprocure.gov.bd> website for details.

Sl No.	Tender ID, Ref. No. & Package No.	Name of works	Last selling date and time	Tender closing date and time
01	Tender ID: 437680 Ref. No. 54.01.0000.207.28.007.19 Package No: e-GP-BR-D1-DA/19-20/31	At SSAE/WORKS /JLX Section: Making fitting, fixing & installation of RCC Precast KM post including painting & lettering at km 436/2-471/7 in between TKND-BBE section with other ancillary works.	05.04.2020 17.00pm	06.04.2020 11.00am
02	Tender ID: 437688 Ref. No. 54.01.0000.207.28.007.19 Package No: e-GP-BR-D1DA/19-20/19	At SSAE/ WORKS/ JLX Section: Thorough repairs to Quarter No-E/24 (6 units) along with other related works at Sorishabari station	05.04.2020 17.00pm	06.04.2020 11.10am

This is an online tenders, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.

All Railway tenderers are requested to register in e-GP.

Md. Mostafizur Rahman
Divisional Engineer-1
Bangladesh Railway, Dhaka

এস(২০)(৭১)
GD-499

বাংলাদেশ প্রাণিসম্পদ গবেষণা ইনস্টিটিউট (বিএলআরআই)
সাতার, ঢাকা
নং-৩৩.০৫.২৬৭২.২০৪.০৯(০৭).১৫-২৯৬ তারিখঃ ১০/০৩/২০২০খ্রিঃ

নিলাম দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

১. দপ্তরের নাম : বাংলাদেশ প্রাণিসম্পদ গবেষণা ইনস্টিটিউট, সাতার, ঢাকা।
২. নিলাম দরপত্রে প্রাপ্তির সংখ্যা : ৫৫ (পঞ্চাশ)টি গরু, ২৯ (উনত্রিশ)টি মহিষ, ২৭ (সাতাশ)টি ছাগল, ৩৬ (ছত্রিশ)টি ভেড়া (কম/বেশী)।
৩. নিলামে বিক্রয়যোগ্য প্যাকেজের নাম : গবেষণার অনুপযোগী কিন্তু মাংস খাওয়ার উপযোগী "গবাদিপ্রাণি" বিক্রয়।
৪. গবাদি প্রাণির বিবরণ : দরপত্র (সিডিউল মোতাবেক)।
৫. গবাদি প্রাণি গ্রহণের সময়সীমা : দরপত্র খোলার দিন হতে অনধিক ০৩ (তিন) কার্যদিবসের মধ্যে।
৬. দরদাতার যোগ্যতা : আত্মহী প্রাণি ব্যবসায়ী/ব্যক্তি/প্রতিষ্ঠান নিলাম দরপত্রে অংশ গ্রহণ করতে পারবেন।
৭. নিলাম দরপত্র সিডিউলের মূল্য (প্রতিটি) : প্রতি সিডিউলের মূল্য ৩০০.০০ (তিনশত) টাকা মাত্র (অফেরতযোগ্য)।
৮. জামানত প্রদানের বিবরণ : প্রতিটি দরপত্রের/লটের সহিত আবদ্ধ খামে যে কোন তফসীলি ব্যাংক হইতে মহাপরিচালক, বাংলাদেশ প্রাণিসম্পদ গবেষণা ইনস্টিটিউট, সাতার, ঢাকা এর বরাবরে ১০,০০০/- (দশ হাজার) টাকার ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/পে-অর্ডার জামানত হিসাবে দাখিল করিতে হইবে। দাখিলকৃত দরপত্রের সাথে পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফটের কপি সংযুক্ত করে বন্ধ খামে জমা দিতে হবে।
৯. দরপত্র সিডিউল বিক্রয়ের স্থান : হিসাবরক্ষণ কর্মকর্তা (অগ্রদায়), বাংলাদেশ প্রাণিসম্পদ গবেষণা ইনস্টিটিউট, সাতার, ঢাকা।
১০. দরপত্র গ্রহণের স্থান : নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, বাংলাদেশ প্রাণিসম্পদ গবেষণা ইনস্টিটিউট, সাতার, ঢাকা-এর অফিস কক্ষে রক্ষিত ব্যস্তে দরপত্র জমা দিতে হবে।
১১. দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের সর্বশেষ তারিখ : ২৪/০৩/২০২০খ্রিঃ তারিখ (অফিস চলাকালীন পর্যন্ত)।
১২. দরপত্র গ্রহণের শেষ তারিখ ও সময় : ২৫/০৩/২০২০খ্রিঃ তারিখ দুপুর ১২.৩০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
১৩. দরপত্র খোলা ও মূল্যায়নের তারিখ ও সময় : ২৫/০৩/২০২০খ্রিঃ তারিখ দুপুর ১.৩০ ঘটিকায় উপস্থিত দরদাতাদের (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) সম্মুখে ব্যস্তে রক্ষিত দরপত্র খোলা হবে।
১৪. দরপত্র খোলার স্থান : সম্মেলন কক্ষ (৪র্থ তলা), বাংলাদেশ প্রাণিসম্পদ গবেষণা ইনস্টিটিউট, সাতার, ঢাকা।
১৫. বিশেষ নির্দেশনা : ক) দরপত্র গ্রহণের দিন কোন দরপত্র বিক্রয় করা হইবে না।
খ) প্রাকৃতিক দুর্ভোগ বা অন্য কোন কারণে কার্যদিবস ব্যহত হইলে পরবর্তী কার্যদিবসের নির্দিষ্ট সময়সূচি অনুযায়ী বর্ধিত স্থানে নিলাম দরপত্র সংক্রান্ত কার্য সম্পাদন করা হইবে। এই জন্য আলাদাভাবে কোন বিজ্ঞপ্তি জারী হইবে না।
গ) নিলামযোগ্য প্রাণির সংখ্যা কম/বেশী হতে পারে।
ঘ) কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ অথবা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা কর্তৃপক্ষ সংরক্ষণ করেন।

মোঃ আজহারুল আমিন
অতিরিক্ত পরিচালক (সাপোর্ট সার্ভিস)
সাতার, ঢাকা

সাইজঃ (১০" x ৩ কলাম)
জিডি-৪৯১

আহ্বায়ক, নিলাম কমিটি