

Lumpy skin disease virus killing cattle in Saidpur

Farmers say they lost as many as 20 cattle to LSD in a couple of months

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

At least 20 cattle died in the last two months in Saidpur upazila and hundreds others infected by a highly contagious viral disease known as lumpy skin disease (LSD).

Owners of around 1 lakh domestic cattle and 300 commercial cattle farms in the upazila are now gripped by fear at the news that the LSD virus is spreading rapidly in the region, especially in Kamarpukur, Kashiram Belpukur, Khata Modhupur, Botlagari and Bangalipur unions in Saidpur.

Rashedul Haque, upazila livestock officer in Saidpur, said they treated a minimum of 250 cattle for LSD in recent months.

Differing with the number of deaths claimed by locals, he said nine cattle, of which are mostly calves, died of "secondary infection" of LSD.

He however played down the severity of the disease and blamed the deaths on weak immunity in the dead animals and wrong treatment of them by quacks.

The official claimed that after "prompt actions" taken by the livestock office, "the disease is on the decline". He also said, "Considering its

severity, we've been treating infected cattle even during the [Covid-19] lockdown period in most unions of the upazila."

Many owners of infected cattle said within two to three days after numerous rounded lumps become evident under the skin of an animal, the lumps turn into open sores that show signs of discharge. It also develops high fever, general malaise and strong aversion to food before dying within a few days.

To make matters worse, many unscrupulous cattle owners are endangering public health by secretly selling their infected animals to local meat sellers for a low price.

Cattle farmer Liakat Ali, from Bus Terminal area in Saidpur town, said he has been worried about all the cattle in his farm as one of the cattle recently died of LSD, which is a contagious disease.

Golam Mostofa, another cattle farmer in Dolua Chowdhurypara village of Kamarpukur union, shared a similar experience with this correspondent.

Contacted, Monakka Ali, district livestock officer in Nilphamari, said lumpy skin disease is a viral disease and "there is no specific vaccine

available" for LSD yet.

Currently they are providing symptomatic treatments to the infected cattle, he said, adding that they also advise farmers to clean their cowsheds with bleaching powder or sodium bicarbonate in order to contain the spread of the disease.

According to the official website of National Animal Disease Information Service (NADIS) in the UK, LSD is caused by infection of cattle or water buffalo with the poxvirus Lumpy skin disease virus (LSDV). The virus is one of three closely related species within the genus capripoxvirus.

Transmission of LSD occurs via insect vectors and vaccination is the most effective means of control. During the past five years, lumpy skin disease has spread through the Middle East into southeast Europe, the Caucasus, southwest Russia and western Asia. The disease causes substantial losses in affected herds with significant economic consequences. It also blocks access of affected countries to lucrative export markets, compounding the financial impact of an LSD outbreak, the NADIS also said in their website.



A cattle farmer from Kamarpukur union shows a calf, infected with the lumpy skin disease, at the livestock office in Saidpur upazila recently. PHOTO: COLLECTED



Unscrupulous people have set up such fishing structures in different areas of the Kanchamatia River in Ishwarganj upazila of Mymensingh, obstructing the natural flow. PHOTO: COLLECTED

Illegal fishing structures removed from river

Ishwarganj UZ admin takes the initiative to bring back flow of Kanchamatia river

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

The upazila administration removed some illegal fishing structures from different areas of the Kanchamatia river in Ishwarganj upazila of Mymensingh on Monday.

A mobile court led by Assistant Commissioner (Land) in Ishwarganj Sayeeda Parvin removed a total of 12 structures and fined the structure makers Tk 6000, said Senior Fisheries Officer ASM Sanwer Rasel, who accompanied the mobile court, during the drive that continued for hours from noon.

The Kanchamatia, a tributary of the Old Brahmaputra, is the only river passing through the upazila and it usually contains sufficient water for three months during the rainy season and the illegal fishing structures are made during this period, said the official.

Due to illegal structures, the massive growth of

hyacinth hinders people's movement across the river at many points while river water cannot easily pass to the Narosunda River in Kishoreganj as the natural flow is seriously obstructed, he added.

Contacted, Ishwarganj Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Md Zakir Hossen said, "The vested interests make the structures for cultivating fish at the start of monsoon every year and it continues for months. The obstruction hampers the natural growth of river fishes, making those less available for common people."

Drives will continue to remove all the structures for bringing back the navigability of the river, which will help to develop indigenous fishes and local agriculture, he said.

Hailing the drive, local journalist Md Mustafizur Rahman said such drives against the vested interest quarters should continue for saving the flow and ecological balance in the river.



Water rushing through the breached portion of this embankment at Bogigabola village in Bagerhat's Sharankhola upazila has flooded the locality, adding to the woes of the people who are still reeling from the destruction caused during the onslaught of super cyclone Amphan on May 20. PHOTO: COLLECTED

DHAKA-SYLHET HIGHWAY EXPANSION

Mughal-era bridge Hatirpool facing extinction

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Brahmanbaria

Locals have demanded withdrawal of a decision by Roads and Highways Department (RHD) to acquire the land of a historical bridge named Hatirpool, two century-old graveyards and a 40-year-old mosque for expansion of Dhaka-Sylhet highway.

Those structures lie north of the highway at Bariura village in Sarail upazila. Local people have submitted a written petition to Brahmanbaria deputy commissioner (DC) in this regard.

In the petition, one Jasim Uddin, a resident of the area, said the bridge, locally known as Hatirpool, was built during Mughal era. In 1650, Dewan Shahbaz Ali built the historical bridge made of lime, stone and bricks. As elephants used to take rest beside the bridge then, locals called it Hatirpool.

Apart from this, there are two three-hundred-year-old cemeteries stretching up

to two kilometers from Islamabad village to Shahbazpur via Bariura village to the north side of the highway. Inhabitants of Bariura, Islamabad and Bochhiura in Sarail and Moindo of Brahmanbaria Sadar upazila bury bodies of their near and dear ones in the graveyards.

Except the two, there are no other cemeteries in the areas, said locals.

The 40-year-old Bariura Bazar Jame Mosque is also situated to the north side of the highway. Buyers, sellers and locals used to perform prayers in the mosque.

According to Brahmanbaria Roads and Highways Department, the government has already taken a decision to widen the two-lane Dhaka-Sylhet highway into six lanes. Asian Development Bank will provide financial support. The expansion work of the road is scheduled to start this year. The survey work has already been started to acquire lands to the north side of the highway, which angered locals.

Bakul Mia, another resident of Bariura

village, said for the road expansion, RHD can easily acquire the land on the south side of the highway stretching from Kuttapara intersection to Shahbazpur bus stand where at least five makeshift kitchen markets are located but it does not happen.

It is a matter of sorrow that the department has recently taken a decision to acquire Hatirpool, which was declared a protected archaeological site by local administration in 1992, said Bakul.

Contacted, Brahmanbaria RHD Executive Engineer Md Shamim Al-Mamun said they are informed about the demand. They will take it under active consideration when the project will be finalised.

DC Hayat-Ud-Dowla Khan said according to law, the land of any protected archaeological site cannot be acquired.

As the road expansion project is now in its initial stage, no final decision has been taken in this regard till now, he said.



Roadside view of the century old bridge, locally called Hatirpool, on the north side of Dhaka-Sylhet highway at Bariura village in Brahmanbaria's Sarail upazila. PHOTO: STAR

Dhaka South City Corporation
Law Division
Nagar Bhaban (Level 05), Fulbaria, Dhaka-1000

শেখ হাসিনার মুদ্রিত
এক শতকের উদ্ভূতি

Request for Expressions of Interest (REOI)
for
Consultancy to Provide Legal Services on DSCC Issues (Individual Consultant-National)

Memo: 46.207.004.20.16.258.2020 Date: 07-06-2020

Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) intends to proceed for appointment of a "Legal Retainer" for Provide Legal Services on DSCC issues (Individual-National).

2. **Scope of Task/Service:**
The Consultant's duties will include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Providing all necessary legal support in overall scope of work of DSCC;
- Assisting in application of PPA 2006 & PPR 2008;
- Providing legal opinion as required by DSCC;
- Drafting letters or documents on legal issues;
- Advise DSCC on legal aspects in relation to the various matters;
- Any other tasks/works involving legal issues as requested by DSCC.

3. **Qualification and Experience:**

- LL.B (Hon') from any public university of Bangladesh/abroad along with a degree of Barrister-at-Law;
- Minimum of ten (10) years of legal practice before the Supreme Court of Bangladesh;
- Consultant having own legal chamber or firm will be preferred;
- Knowledge of public procurement laws and rules required;
- Good analytical and writing skills;
- Computer literate (Microsoft Office).

4. The DSCC invites eligible applicants to indicate their interest in providing the services. Applicants are invited to provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (complete CV with expected monthly remuneration).

5. Detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) will be available upon request from the address provided below either through email or in person.

6. The consultant will be selected using the selection of **Individual Consultant**.

7. The services will be commenced immediately after selection at Dhaka, Bangladesh will be for approximately one year.

8. Expressions of Interest shall be submitted by 23/06/2020 at 12.30pm in sealed envelope clearly marked "Expressions of Interest for Consultancy to Provide Legal Services on DSCC Issues (Individual-National) to the Law Division of DSCC."

9. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all EOIs.

Sd/-
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