



Onrush of floodwater and sudden rise on water level in the Jhenai river washed away two important bridges in Dapnazar and Chhonkapara areas, below, in Tangail's Basail upazila in the last few days, snapping road communication with the upazila headquarters.

PHOTO:  
STAR

## Floodwater washes away two important bridges in Tangail

Inhabitants of 30 villages in Basail upazila suffer as road communication disrupts

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Road communication between Basail and Kalihati upazila has remained suspended since a bridge on the Jhenai river in Basail upazila collapsed on Monday due to heavy pressure of floodwater.

Locals said, although the bridge in Dapnazar area was declared risky long ago, pedestrians and light vehicles used to ply through the vulnerable bridge till it collapsed on Monday noon.

Due to the bridge collapse now people have to use alternative way to go to their destinations including the district headquarter.

Villagers said a span in the middle of the vulnerable bridge suddenly collapsed due to heavy pressure of water around 12:00noon.

According to Tangail Water Development the Jhenai river, a branch of the Jamuna, was flowing 89 centimetre above the danger level on Monday.

Rozdid Ahmed, upazila engineer of Local Government and Engineering



Department (LGED) in Basail, said the bridge, constructed in 1998, was declared risky long ago.

Meanwhile, people of at least 30 villages in the same upazila have been suffering immensely since a concrete bridge on

Basail-Natiapara road washed away by floodwater last Thursday.

Basail LGED Upazila Engineer Rozdid Ahmmed said the 11.5-meter-long bridge in Chhonkapara area in the upazila collapsed due to onrush of floodwater,

disrupting road communication between Basail and part of adjacent Mirzapur upazila.

Kanchanpur Union Parishad Chairman Mamun-or-Rashid said the bridge was in dilapidated condition for long and people of at least 30 villages used to go to their destination using the vulnerable bridge.

As a result, thousands of inhabitant of nearby villages suffering a lot as vehicular movement on Basail-Natiapara road remained suspended since the bridge collapsed.

Due to the situation, local people have to cover a long distance to go to their desired destination, villagers said.

The bridge, constructed under a project of CARE Bangladesh in 1999, was in a dilapidated condition for long, he said, adding that they have informed their higher authorities about the collapsed bridge.

Besides, proposal to construct a new bridge on the same spot was also sent to the authorities concerned earlier, the engineer further said.

## Attempt to grab govt land by spreading rumors

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pirojpur

A group of people have allegedly tried to grab a government canal land in Nazirpur upazila by spreading false information on social media.

On July 6, a video went viral on Facebook, where it was seen that an employee of the upazila land office was removing a fence from the lands of canal beside a government road near Dighirjan Bazar in Nazirpur.

In the video, a man also claimed that some people were grabbing their land by torturing Hindu men.

He also claimed that the land of 200-year-old Shib Temple at the house of Manindranath Majumder in the bazar area has been grabbed. The temple has also been vandalized.

But on July 8, the president and general secretary of Pirojpur district unit Puja Udjapan Parishad at a press conference at Pirojpur Press Club said no incident of temple vandalism and land grabbing happened in Nazirpur upazila.

Gopal Chandra Basu, general secretary of the parishad, said there has been longstanding conflict between Manindranath Majumder and the authorities of Nazirpur upazila land office over the canal land.

He further added that when the employees of Nazirpur upazila land office went there, someone captured the video.

Some vested quarters are spreading rumors by posting the video on Facebook, he said.

They have visited the spot and found no evidence of grabbing and vandalising the temple, said Gopal Basu, adding that a group of people were spreading rumors through Facebook with an ill motive to hinder the development activities of the government.

Manindranath Majumder's son Dipten Majumder Bappi also said no incident of grabbing and vandalising the temple at their house happened.

He added that the men of the upazila land office forcibly removed a fence to grab their 11 decimals of land of the canal.

But he could not say who captured the video and posted it on Facebook.

Meanwhile, Fahmi Md Shaief, assistant commissioner (AC-Land) of Nazirpur, said a group of people tried to grab a canal of the government after filling up it with sand and erected fence around it.

"To free 91 decimals of land of the canal from the occupiers, we have removed the fence," he said.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Abu Ali M Sazzad Hossain said they will demark the government land immediately so that none can grab it.

They will take legal steps against the culprits who have spread rumors over the issue, the DC said, adding that a group of people were trying to grab government land using religious cover.

Hyatul Islam Khan, superintendent of police in Pirojpur, said they were trying to identify those persons who have spread false information on social media.

## Smart Haat: A beacon of hope for cattle farmers

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

To prevent Covid-19 spread, the Moulvibazar district administration has launched an online cattle market named Smart Haat here ahead of Eid-ul-Azha, a festival marked by sacrifice of animals. It has already become popular among the marginal cattle farmers and buyers in the district.

Moulvibazar Deputy Commissioner (DC) Mir Nahid Ahsan said they have launched the online haat so that people can buy sacrificial animals from their home during coronavirus. It will decrease the number of buyers at the market besides reducing the cost the farmers spend for carrying their cattle to haat. Due to this initiative, the coronavirus infection rate will be low among people in the district.

He further said that anyone can login from his Facebook and search for Smart Haat to access this page. Videos and photos of cows and its weight and price and the address and mobile numbers of the farmers in different upazilas will be uploaded on this Facebook page. The upazilas are Sreemangal, Kamalganj, Rajnagar, Kulaura, Juri, Baralekha and Moulvibazar Sadar.

By visiting the page, the buyers can select the cow of their choice and purchase the animal by calling the mobile number given by the farmer. Moreover, in case of any problem in buying or selling the cattle, seven hotline numbers have been created in the seven upazilas that is available 24 hours a day. The online cattle market was inaugurated at a meeting of the district law and order committee on July 12.

Mujibur Rahman, a farmer of Mirsankar area in Kulaura upazila of Moulvibazar district, said "I was taking preparation to sell his three cows this year. But after hearing the news of coronavirus outbreak since the beginning of the current year, I was afraid whether I would be able to sell the cows or not, because if I could not sell the cows, there would be no new dresses for his children in the Eid. But after hearing the news of the online cattle market, I see a ray of hope again and that's why I am collecting all the information."

Another farmer Saddam Mia of the same area said "I'm really glad to hear the news of the online haat as I will sell my cows from my house without any hassle."

Sajjad Hasan, a farmer from Kakiabazar in Sreemangal upazila, said he uploaded the video of his cow on the Facebook page of Smart Haat. It is priced at Tk 6 lakh. Many buyers are calling him after seeing the animal here.

Moulvibazar Superintendent of Police Faruq Ahmed said the initiative has been taken to prevent coronavirus transmission. Marginal farmers will be benefited from this.

DC Mir Nahid Ahsan said they have introduced regular cattle markets as well as online cattle market on behalf of the district administration this year. If the ordinary people buy their sacrificial animals from this online haat, it will be possible to avoid the possibility of Covid-19 infection.

He further added that the online cattle market has already attracted the farmers in the district during the pandemic. Every day the cattle farmers upload the photos and videos of their cows on this Facebook page for sale. The volunteers under the Access to Information (a2i) programme are helping the farmers to upload photos and videos of the sacrificial animals on the Facebook page.

মৌলভীবাজার জেলার সম্মানিত  
জেলা প্রশাসক মহোদয়ের উদ্যোগে  
অনলাইনে পশুর হাট ২০২০

**Smart হাট**

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh		
Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics		
National Household Database (NHD) Project		
Parishankhyan Bhaban (9th Floor, Block-1)		
E-27/A, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207		
Memo No. 52.031.07.131.04.450.2020-22	Date: 21/07/2020	
<b>Request for Expression of Interest (REOI) for Individual Consultant</b>		
1	Ministry/Division	Statistics and Informatics Division.
2	Agency	Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics.
3	Name of procuring entity	Project Director, National Household Database (NHD) Project.
4	Title of service	Selection of Financial Management Specialist (FMS) (National).
5	Procuring entity district	Dhaka.
6	Expression of Interest for Selection of	Individual Consultant (Time Based).
7	EOI Ref. No.	52.031.07.131.04.450.2020-22
8	Date	21-07-2020
<b>KEY INFORMATION</b>		
9	Procurement sub-method	Selection of Individual Consultants (SIC).
<b>FUNDING INFORMATION</b>		
10	Budget and source of funds	Development, Aid Grant/Credit.
11	Development partners (if applicable)	IDA.
<b>PARTICULAR INFORMATION</b>		
12	Project/programme code (if applicable)	1631-5013 (Credit No. 5281-BD & 6137-BD)
13	Project/programme name (if applicable)	National Household Database (NHD) Project.
14	EOI closing date & time	Date: <b>05 August 2020</b> . EOI shall be submitted in sealed envelope marked with "Expression of Interest for Financial Management Specialist". Time: <b>03:00pm</b>
<b>INFORMATION FOR APPLICANT</b>		
15	Brief description of the assignment	The FMS will work under the supervision of the Project Director and will be responsible for the overall project financial management. Key responsibilities include, but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Managing the Accounting System: to ensure coverage of all project activities, i.e. all sources of funds and utilization of funds in all activities.</li> <li>Managing the Budgeting System: to integrate with the accounting system to enable comparison of actual performance with budgetary targets periodically and to ensure that financial forecasts are based on projected work programs and actual performance.</li> <li>Ensuring the Flow of Funds: to process withdrawal application of IDA funds to the Government Consolidated Fund and/or Designated Account; and to ensure adequate internal control for proper utilization, management and accounting of funds.</li> <li>Designing Formats/Maintaining Books: e.g. voucher formats, cash and bank books, journals, trial balances, etc.</li> <li>Financial Reporting: to prepare Interim Financial Reports (IFRs); and to provide quality and timely information to BBS and IDA on the project's financial performance.</li> <li>Supporting Bank Account Operation and Reconciliation: by providing advice on efficient operation and preparing monthly reconciliation statements.</li> <li>Liaising with External Auditors: attending meetings; facilitating timely completion of audits; supplying information and documents in response to queries; and coordinating with various stakeholders in meeting audit objections.</li> </ul> <b>Detailed description of assignment will be available in BBS &amp; SID website.</b>
16	Qualification and experience	The Financial Management Specialist should have the following academic qualification, skills and experiences: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Professional Accounting Qualification from any IFAC body;</li> <li>5 years' experience in a position no less than Deputy Director in OCAG/5 years of managerial level experience in a corporate/semi-government/non-government organization;</li> <li>Trained on operating Financial/Accounting Software;</li> <li>At least 05 (five) years of work experience in financial management in government/semi-government institutions, or with international donors, implementing development projects;</li> <li>Knowledge of Government budgeting, fund release and reporting requirements;</li> <li>Knowledge of IDA's financial management and disbursement procedures;</li> <li>Excellent skills in using spreadsheet applications;</li> <li>Excellent communication skills (speaking and writing) in English and Bangla.</li> </ul>
17	Other details	Duration of the consultancy is initially for one year or the date of project closing which one comes earlier. Interested applicants may obtain the Terms of Reference (ToR) downloading from the website: <a href="http://www.sid.gov.bd">www.sid.gov.bd</a> or <a href="http://www.bbs.gov.bd">www.bbs.gov.bd</a> .
<b>CLIENT DETAILS</b>		
18	Name of the official inviting EOI	Dr. Sheikh Harunur Rashid Ahmed.
19	Designation of the official inviting EOI	Project Director (Additional Secretary).
20	Address of the official inviting EOI	National Household Database (NHD) Project, Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, Parishankhyan Bhaban (9th Floor, Block-1), E-27/A, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207.
21	Contact details of the official inviting EOI	Phone: 02-55007001   E-mail: <a href="mailto:pd_bdd@yahoo.com">pd_bdd@yahoo.com</a>
22	The Client reserves the right to accept or reject any/all Expression of Interests.	
Dr. Sheikh Harunur Rashid Ahmed Project Director (Additional Secretary)		