



Farmers busy planting Aman saplings on land that has recently been reclaimed from Kawadighi Haor in Moulvibazar's Rajnagar upazila.

PHOTO: MINTU DESHWARA

# 400 hectares land reclaimed from Kawadighi Haor

Farmers hope for better days as longstanding water logging problem partially solved after 20 years

MINTU DESHWARA, Moulvibazar

Several thousand farmers are finally cultivating Aman rice again on about 400 hectares of land, in Kawadighi Haor of Moulvibazar Sadar and Rajnagar upazilas, which otherwise had been under water for about twenty years.

Last year's renovation conducted on Kashempur Pump House -- originally built in 1983 under Manu River Project, commissioned with the objective to utilise vast areas in the haor to produce Boro rice and other crops -- has made the reclamation of the land possible.

Out of 24 thousand hectares of cropland covered under the project, about 14 thousand hectares became permanently waterlogged over the past twenty

years, when eight pumps in the pump house started to weaken and failed to disperse water to their full capacity, said officials at Water Development Board (WDB) and Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) in Moulvibazar.

Ranendra Shankar Chakrabarty, WDB executive engineer in Moulvibazar, said after the pumps lost efficiency, farmers could not cultivate any crop on around 14 thousand hectares of land within the project area due to permanent stagnation of water.

But after the recent renovation of the old pumps and installation of a few new ones, water pumping capacity of the pump house increased and, as a result, hundreds of farmers in the two upazilas are now planting Aman on about 400

to 450 hectares of land that used to be under water before, he added.

Farmer Muhibur Rahman, from Rasulpur village in Rajnagar upazila, said for the past fifteen years, he had not been able to cultivate any rice on 15 bighas of his land inside the project area due to the water logging.

He is happy this year as the water has receded and he hopes to harvest a substantial amount of Aman rice that he just planted there.

Many other farmers this correspondent spoke with -- including Jidan Mia, from the same village; and Kajal Mia, from Banishree village -- said they also look forward to a better future as they have planted rice on their land after a long time and the weather

seems favourable too.

Nazrul Islam, a farmer from Biraimabad village of Rajnagar upazila, said, he was preparing 15 acres of his land for Aman cultivation.

Kazi Lutful Bari, deputy director of DAE in Moulvibazar, said they set a target of cultivating Aman on 1 lakh and 200 hectares of land this year in Kawadighi Haor, where the crop was cultivated on 1 lakh and 150 hectares last year.

He also said thousands of farmers will benefit from the renovation of the pump house this year and a larger area in the haor, which has remained under water for the past twenty years, will gradually come under cultivation in the near future.

## Fair price brings smile to early variety cabbage farmers

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

Cabbage farmers in four upazilas of the district are very happy as they are earning a good profit from sale of early variety of the winter vegetable.

According to the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) in Faridpur, six hectares of land Boalmari, Saltha, Madhukhali and Sadar upazilas have been brought under early variety cabbage cultivation this year.

Under a program titled "Safe Vegetable Production through Environmentally Friendly Techniques", growers of different areas in the upazilas have been cultivating cabbage for the last two years, said Asutos Biswas, sub-deputy director of DAE in Faridpur.

Farmer Sujit Kumar Sikdar of Narayanpur village in Sadar upazila said he has cultivated cabbage on his 40 decimals of land this season, spending Tk 25,000. He has already got Tk 80,000 from sale of 50 maunds of the early variety vegetable. Per maund of cabbage was sold at Tk 1600.

He hopes he will get Tk 20,000 more from sale of the cabbage.

He used only organic fertiliser in his land with the help of a local NGO, added Sujit.

Md Shariful Islam, another cabbage grower of Bhimpur village in Boalmari upazila, said he has been cultivating early variety cabbage for five years. This year, he has cultivated the cabbage on 25 decimals of land spending Tk 30,000.

He hopes that he can sell the winter vegetable next week.

"I hope I will earn a profit of Tk 40,000 from sale of the early winter vegetable this year," added Shariful.

Another farmer of the same area Somir Kumar Biswas said, early verity cabbage cultivation is more profitable compared to

other vegetable in this season.

"I planted the cabbage saplings on the last week of July and hope I can sell it from the next week," he said.

A good number of farmers are showing interest to cultivate cabbage this season, he added.

Md Mocha Mollah, a cabbage grower of Baghat village in Madhukhali upazila, said



An early variety cabbage field at Narayanpur village in Faridpur Sadar upazila.

PHOTO: STAR

he has already earned a good profit from sale of the early variety vegetable.

"I have cultivated cabbage on 50 decimals of land. I have already started selling cabbage at Tk 65 to Tk 75 per kg this year, which was Tk 40 to Tk 65 last year," he added.

DAE official Asutos Biswas said they have provided all sorts of necessary support to the early variety cabbage farmers this year.

The growers are earning a good profit from selling the winter vegetable this season, he said.

## Bangladesh

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The Awami League parliamentary party in a four-hour meeting today completes the examination of the amendments suggested to the draft constitution. Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman presides over the meeting. Shah Moazzem Hossain, chief whip of the ALPP, informs that some minor amendments improving the draft constitution here and there have been accepted by the parliamentary party. Bangabandhu is learnt to have expressed satisfaction in the parliamentary party's meeting at the hard work put in by the members to give the nation a constitution within such a short time, reflecting the hopes and aspirations of the people who had to make unprecedented sacrifices for achieving independence.

SOURCES: October 30, 1972 issues of Bangladesh Observer, Dainik Bangla and Dainik Ittefaq.

## Massive

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research organization Schmidt Ocean Institute announced Monday.

The reef was first discovered on October 20, as scientists completed an underwater mapping of the seafloor of the northern Great Barrier Reef.

At 500 meters high, it is taller than the Empire State Building (381 meters to the top floor), the Sydney Tower (305 meters) and the Petronas Twin Towers (451.9 meters.)

## Internet to remain slow

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which will continue till November 2," said Global Services Management Center, Bharti Airtel Limited while informing its counterpart organisation in Bangladesh.

Earlier on Tuesday, Airtel said its upgradation activities in the Seabone cable from Chennai to Singapore will begin tomorrow and continue till November 2.

On October 26, Bharti Airtel Ltd said they were planning to start the maintenance work from Tuesday midnight.

Airtel, however, yesterday said, "As per the latest DPR [Development Progress Report] received from the Cable ship today, the cable diversion activity of i2i is expected to start tentatively from October 30 and continue till November 2."

"The planned outage schedule may change depending on the progress of the preceding cable diversions and weather conditions," it also said.

Industry experts have said that internet users may face reduced speed in some areas for five days starting tomorrow.

"Latency and congestion are likely to increase in some destinations, especially during the peak hours -- 8:00pm to 1:00am," Ahmed Junayed, secretary general, International Internet Getaway Association, Bangladesh (IIGAB), told The Daily Star yesterday.

He also said Bangladesh may experience outages of between 100 gigabytes per second (gbps) and 150gbps due to the equipment changes being by Bharti Airtel Limited at their Seabone cable at the Singapore end.

Junayed, who is also the vice-president of Internet Service Providers Association of Bangladesh (ISPAB) and managing director of Level 3 Carrier Ltd (IIG), said Bangladesh currently has 1,700gbps bandwidth.

"Therefore, outages of 100 to 150gbps bandwidth would not have much effect on internet usage," he added.

The latency and congestion level in internet usage may be at a minimum, he said.

IT expert Junayed said major IIG operators have already taken some alternative arrangements to tackle the situation, adding, "We hope internet users will not face much problem from October 30 [tomorrow] to November 2."

There are 39 IIGs in Bangladesh, of which 25 to 30 are operational.

Only the top three would be affected by the maintenance work, industry experts said.

IIGs import bandwidth from abroad and sell them among ISPs. There are 2,100 licensed ISPs across the country.

The South East Asia -- Middle East -- Western Europe 4 (SEA-ME-WE 4) is an approximately 18,800 km-long submarine cable connecting Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Italy, Tunisia, Algeria and France.

"The SEA-ME-WE 4 is up. There is no maintenance over it. Only those IIGs that are using the SEA-ME-WE 4 from Cox's Bazar to Chennai and then are connected to the i2i to reach Singapore would be affected," said an industry insider.

The total number of internet subscribers rose 8.3 percent to an all-time high of 10.82 crore at the end of August, compared to February's 9.99 crore.

## 2 witnesses fail to appear

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controversial raid conducted by Detective Branch of police in 2016.

Judge Tehsin Iftekhar of the Metropolitan Special Tribunal-15 of Dhaka passed the order after the prosecution filed a petition.

Ten prosecution witnesses out of 13 have so far testified, court sources said.

In the petition, the prosecution said the two witnesses failed to appear before the court for unknown reasons. So, the hearing should not be held.

During a raid at the Hotel Bondhu in the capital's Paltan on November 6, 2016, a team of plainclothes officials from the Detective Branch of police detained hotel manager Hasan Majumdar and chef Sohel Rana. The CCTV camera of Hotel Bondhu captured it all.

But the first information report prepared by the police a day after the incident, on November 7, gives a completely different story, contradicting the video clips and multiple witness accounts.

According to the FIR lodged with Motijheel Police Station, officers arrested Hasan and Sohel from an alley near Fakirapool Fish Market area around 4:15pm. The two were held while fleeing the spot with Tk 25 lakh worth of fake notes, it mentioned.

Hasan alleged that the FIR and subsequent case had been cooked up by the DB.

Sub-Inspector Dewan Uzzal Hossain of Motijheel Police Station pressed charges against the duo on September 19, 2017. On October 29 that year, the charges were framed against them.

Following the incident, Hasan and his brother Hossain Majumdar lodged 10 complaints -- six with the Police Headquarters, two with Dhaka Metropolitan Police, one with the Prime Minister's Office, and one with the home ministry -- on different dates over the last four years.

Multiple probe committees were formed by the Police Headquarters and the Dhaka Metropolitan Police to investigate the allegations against nine DB men of Motijheel Zonal Team who conducted the controversial drive.

## Delhi to start issuing

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travelling facilities to the maximum number of Bangladeshis.

Indian High Commission currently issues medical, business, employment, entry, journalist, diplomatic, official, UN official and UN diplomatic visas.

At the programme, he also said that airlines were the safest mode of travelling, maintaining health guidelines amid Covid-19 situation.

Bangladesh is one of the 14 countries with whom India has Air Bubble Agreement. Indian High Commission in Bangladesh used to issue between 7,000 and 10,000 visas to the Bangladeshis every day. Now, it is issuing around 1,000 visas a day.

"We hope it could pick up rapidly... Bangladesh is a priority. Those who need to travel urgently, please come to us. We will be happy to facilitate visas," he said.

Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh (CAAB) Chairman Air Vice-Marshal M Mafidur Rahman said they were cautious to ensure peoples' health safety as they operate flights.

According to Indian Ministry of Civil Aviation, India has created an air travel agreement with Bangladesh, effective from today. This agreement is valid till January 31.

In order to travel between the two countries, Covid-19 negative certificate is a must within 72 hours before travel, said Kamrul Islam, general manager, public relations, US-Bangla Airlines.

All passengers traveling to India will have to undergo mandatory home quarantine for seven days, authorities said.

US-Bangla Airlines will operate flights on Dhaka-Chennai, Dhaka-Kolkata and from Chittagong-Chennai routes.

The national flag carrier, Biman Bangladesh Airlines, will also resume regular passenger flights to India from today.

Biman will operate weekly three flights each on the Dhaka-Delhi-Dhaka route from October 29, Dhaka-Kolkata-Dhaka route from November 1, and Dhaka-Chennai-Dhaka route from November 15, Biman Managing Director and CEO Mokabbir Hossain said.

Biman, US-Bangla Airlines and Novo Air would initially operate 28 flights a week while five Indian airlines -- Air India, IndiGo, SpiceJet, Vistara and GoAir -- would operate 28 flights a week between the two countries under the agreement.

## Trump

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on Nov. 3, instead of counting ballots for two weeks, which is totally inappropriate and I don't believe that that's by our laws," Trump told reporters at the White House before leaving for campaign rallies in three states.

### 23 more

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General of Health Services (DGHS).

With this, the coronavirus death toll reached 5,861, which is 1.45 percent of all cases -- 403,079 -- confirmed in the country.

The authorities reported 1,493 new infections after conducting 12,357 tests at 111 testing centres in those 24 hours, said the release, adding that the positivity rate was 12.08 percent.

## No space

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"The boundary question is a bilateral matter between China and India. The two sides have been discussing disengagement and de-escalation in the border areas through diplomatic and military channels. China and India have the wisdom and ability to handle their differences properly. There's no space for a third party to intervene," said a statement released by the Chinese Embassy.

## Two held for gang-raping

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"Bashar and the victim knew each other [from before]. The girl used to work as a domestic help in the port city.

"Bashar helped the girl get the job, after which the employer told him that they did not need her and to take the girl home. He came to the port city and took the girl to Banshkhali instead to rape her. After Bashar, his friend Jamir raped her," added the OC.

Hearing the girl's screams, locals rescued her and informed police, who arrested the duo that very night.

The victim was sent to the One-Stop Crisis Center of Chattogram Medical College Hospital for medical tests, while her mother filed a case against the duo.

Another two people were arrested from Chattogram for raping a girl in Moulvibazar.

Besides, a court in Dhaka recorded statement of a 13-year-old rape victim.

According to the statement, the girl, who is a theatre activist, met Fazlul Haque, founder of a theatre group, on October 20.

When Fazlul found the girl alone, he took his friend Akther's help to rape her, said Abdul Momen, sub-inspector of Hazaribagh Police Station.

On the other hand in Faridpur, two men -- Zahurul and Abdullah -- forcibly picked up a girl and took her to a secluded spot where one Elias was waiting to rape her, said Md Aminul Rahman, OC of Boalmari Police Station.

Sensing trouble, locals caught Elias and handed him over to police.

In Jashore, a court yesterday sent a man to jail on charge of raping a woman.

Manik Hossain, 24, a resident of Barandipara area in the district town, raped the girl on October 27 after making promises of marriage.

Later, the victim called an official of the administration, after which law enforcers rescued her and arrested the alleged rapist, said Moniruzzaman, OC of the Jashore Kotwa Police Station.


In Moulvibazar, another young man was sued over rape charges on Tuesday at Kamalganj upazila.

The accused is Jubayed Ali Shakil, 25.


On Tuesday, the girl gave her statement before a court in Dhaka, police sources said. Meanwhile, a housewife was gang raped in Panchagarh and a case was filed in this regard with Boda Police Station on Tuesday night, after which police arrested four accused in an overnight drive.

They were produced before court yesterday afternoon, after which they were sent to jail.

(Our correspondents from Faridpur, Chattogram, Benapole and Moulvibazar contributed to the report.)



**ব্যাংকার্স সিলেকশন কমিটি সচিবালয়**  
বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক  
প্রধান কার্যালয়  
ঢাকা



**১১ কার্তিক, ১৪২৭**  
তারিখঃ ২৭ অক্টোবর, ২০২০

**সমন্বিত ৪টি ব্যাংকে ‘কর্মকর্তা (সাধারণ)’ পদে নিয়োগ প্রসঙ্গে**

বিগত ২১/০৬/২০১৯ তারিখে অনুষ্ঠিত লিখিত ও ২৫/০৮/২০১৯ তারিখ হতে ১৮/০৯/২০১৯ তারিখ পর্যন্ত অনুষ্ঠিত মৌখিক পরীক্ষায় উত্তীর্ণ প্রার্থীদের মধ্যে ১৬৯ (একশত ঊনসত্তর) জন প্রার্থী সমন্বিত ৪টি ব্যাংকে ‘কর্মকর্তা (সাধারণ)’ পদে ২য় পর্যায়ে নিয়োগের জন্য প্রাথমিকভাবে নির্বাচিত হয়েছেন। নির্বাচিত প্রার্থীদের রোল নম্বর বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংকের ওয়েবসাইটে (<https://erecruitment.bb.org.bd>) upload করা হয়েছে।

নিয়োগ সংক্রান্ত পরবর্তী সকল কার্যক্রম সোনালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড, বাংলাদেশ ডেভেলপমেন্ট ব্যাংক লিমিটেড, প্রবাসী কল্যাণ ব্যাংক, কর্মসংস্থান ব্যাংক কর্তৃক সম্পাদিত হবে।

ব্যাংকিং ও আর্থিক সেবা পেতে হয়রানির শিকার হলে কিংবা কোনো অভিযোগ থাকলে ১৬২৩৬ নম্বরে ফোন করুন।

স্বাক্ষরিত/-

**আরিফ হোসেন খান**  
মহাব্যবস্থাপক, বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক  
ও  
সদস্য-সচিব, বিএসসি

ডিসিপিঃ ৪৮/২০২০-৩০৩৯  
তারিখঃ ২৮/১০/২০২০  
জিডি-১৭২৩

**গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার**  
ডাক ও টেলিযোগাযোগ বিভাগ  
লাইসেন্সিং কর্তৃপক্ষ  
মেইলিং অপারেটর ও কুরিয়ার সার্ভিস প্রতিষ্ঠান  
ডাক ভবন, ঢাকা-১০০০

নম্বর-১৪.৩৮.০০০০.০০৫.১৮.০৮৭.২০.১  
তারিখঃ ২৬ আশ্বিন ১৪২৭  
১১ অক্টোবর ২০২০

**বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার "The Post Office Act, 1898" এর অনুবৃত্তিক্রমে প্রণীত সংশোধনী "The Post Office (Amendment) Act, 2010 Section 4B এ প্রদত্ত ক্ষমতাবলে এস আর ও নং-৩৪৯ আইন/২০১৩ মূলে “মেইলিং অপারেটর ও কুরিয়ার সার্ভিস বিধিমালা-২০১৩” জারি করেছে। উক্ত বিধিমালার ১১(১) বিধি অনুযায়ী লাইসেন্স ব্যতীত কোন প্রতিষ্ঠান কর্তৃক মেইলিং ও কুরিয়ার ব্যবসা পরিচালনা করা সম্পূর্ণ বেআইনী ও আইনতঃ দণ্ডনীয় অপরাধ।

সম্প্রতি লক্ষ করা যাচ্ছে, কিছু কিছু প্রতিষ্ঠান লাইসেন্সিং কর্তৃপক্ষ, মেইলিং অপারেটর ও কুরিয়ার সার্ভিস প্রতিষ্ঠান হতে লাইসেন্স গ্রহণ না করেই কুরিয়ার ব্যবসা পরিচালনা করছে আবার কিছু প্রতিষ্ঠান মেয়াদোত্তীর্ণ লাইসেন্স নিয়ে ব্যবসা পরিচালনা করছে। এমনকি লাইসেন্সবিহীন কিছু প্রতিষ্ঠান পত্র-পত্রিকায় ও অনলাইনে কুরিয়ার ব্যবসার বিজ্ঞপ্তি ও এজেন্ট নিয়োগের বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রচার করছে। এধরনের কর্মকাণ্ড সরকারি নিয়ম-নীতির সম্পূর্ণ পরিপন্থী ও বেআইনী। সরকারি নিয়ম-নীতি বহির্ভূত অবৈধ কর্মকাণ্ড থেকে বিরত থাকার জন্য সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলকে সতর্ক করা হলো।

এছাড়াও লাইসেন্সিং কর্তৃপক্ষ, মেইলিং অপারেটর ও কুরিয়ার সার্ভিস প্রতিষ্ঠান হতে লাইসেন্স গ্রহণ ব্যতিরেকে অথবা হালনাগাদ লাইসেন্স নেই এমন কোন প্রতিষ্ঠানের এজেন্ট নিয়োগ না হওয়ার জন্য এবং উক্তরূপ প্রতিষ্ঠানের মাধ্যমে ডাক দ্রব্যাদি শ্রেণণ না করার জন্য সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের দৃষ্টি আকর্ষণ করা হলো।

**মোঃ শাহাদাৎ হোসেন**  
চেয়ারম্যান (অতিরিক্ত সচিব)  
লাইসেন্সিং কর্তৃপক্ষ  
মেইলিং অপারেটর ও কুরিয়ার সার্ভিস প্রতিষ্ঠান

জিডি-১৭১৩