



Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila's Char Gokunda resident Milon Islam used to be busy with studies like his other third grader classmates when his school was open, before Covid-19 broke out. But now, he spends most of his days working with his father at crop fields. PHOTO: S DILIP ROY

IMPACT OF COVID-19

Education takes a back seat in char areas

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Milon Islam is a student of class three from a family that lives on agriculture, in Char Gokunda on the Teesta river in Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila. He has shelved his textbooks for nine months as his school has been closed due to the coronavirus pandemic.

He has been working along with his father in crop fields on the char all this time.

In Shakhahati, a remote char on the Brahmaputra river in Chilmari upazila of Kurigram, fifth grader Jobed Ali did not open his textbooks in the last nine months. He also has been busy working with his father in the char ever since his school closed due to the virus.

Maminul Islam, a fourth grader in Char

Gonordhan on the Teesta river in Aditmari upazila of Lalmonirhat, said he already forgot where he kept his textbooks.

Farmer Shamsur Ali, from Char Kodalkati in Kurigram's Rajibpur upazila, said their children study only when the schools are open.

After the closing of schools due to the pandemic, students in chars fell behind their studies, as they cannot afford private tutors, he added.

Upendra Nath Das, head teacher of Char Mantala Government Primary School in Chilmari upazila of Kurigram, said educational activities of students in the chars are being affected greatly after the schools closed down. "It will not be easy to compensate for their losses."

According to offices of primary and secondary education directorates in Kurigram and Lalmonirhat, there are about 20,000 students in 95 primary and 17 high schools in more than 300 chars on the Brahmaputra, Teesta, Dudhkumar and Dharla rivers in the two districts.

District Primary Education Officer in Lalmonirhat Golam Nabi said parents in the mainland are somehow continuing studies of their children. Whereas, parents in the chars cannot afford house tutors or lack awareness on the importance of continuing studies of their children at home.

Once the schools reopen, they would take a decision on how to make up for the losses of students in chars, he also said.

Good days for Nilphamari quilt makers

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

Quilt makers in Nilphamari are all geared up for their seasonal business as demand for the item sees a rise amid fall of temperature in the district ahead of the winter.

Met office at Saidpur airport said the lowest temperature was recorded at 9.5 degrees Celsius in the district on Sunday. The situation may worsen further with the arrival of cold wind from the Himalayas.

Temperature may fall in next weeks as it usually falls by 4 degrees Celsius from mid-December to mid-January, predicts met office.

Poor and low-income people, who usually suffer from malnutrition and have lower body resistance, are the worst victims of the situation, informed health department.

People particularly belonging to the group rush to the quilt combers at haat and bazars in rural areas or roadside shops in the town either to buy new quilt or repair old ones.

Abdur Rahim, an office bearer of district quilt combers' group, said most of their 720 members are passing busy time now as each can make five to six ordinary quilts a day and get Tk 175 as making charge for per piece.

Workers at quilt shops across the district are seen busy stitching quilts, he added.

Rezaul Islam, 45, who pules rickshaw through Nilphamari-Jaldhaka road, said he purchased a quilt at Tk 600.

Six to seven kg imported cotton is needed to make an eight-foot long and 5-foot wide good quality double sized quilt. It costs at Tk 3500 to Tk 3800.

This quilt is highly demanded among solvent people, said comber Akhtar Hossain of Saidpur quilt market.

Quilt makers Hatem Ali and Shahidar Rahman of Domar and Jaldhaka municipalities said November-January is the peak season for their business and the rest of the year, they almost pass idle times.

The quilt makers maintain family from the earning of this peak period, they said.



Combers stitch quilts at Saidpur railway market in Nilphamari as demand for the item has increased with the advent of winter. PHOTO: STAR



Local people vandalize this under-construction four storey schoolhouse of Dhanyakhola Secondary School under Benapole Port Police Station in Jashore on Sunday, bringing allegation of irregularities by the contractor concerned in the construction work.

PHOTO: MOHSIN MILON

Farmer killed over land dispute

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

An elderly farmer was killed by his rivals allegedly over a land dispute in Phulbaria upazila on Sunday.

The victim is Noor Mohammad, 53, of Baruka village in the upazila.

Quoting the victim's family members, police said there had been a longstanding rivalry between Noor and his cousins Abu Bakar Siddique and Abdul Qudus over a disputed land.

As a sequel, rivals hacked Noor with sharp weapons on Sunday evening, leaving him critically injured. Locals took injured Noor to Phulbaria Upazila Health Complex, where the doctors declared him dead.

Body recovered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj

A man was found dead at a mango orchard in Gomostapur upazila yesterday.

The deceased, Meherul Islam, 33, a day labourer, was son of Kabirul Islam of Balugram village.

OC of Gomostapur Police Station Dilip Kumar Das said villagers spotted Meherul's body at Begumnagar village in the morning and informed them.

Later, they recovered the body and sent it hospital for autopsy, he added.

Pabna University of Science & Technology Office of the Project Director, PUST, PABNA. Memo No: PUST/PD/e-GP/OTM/40 (Corrigendum) Date: 20/12/2020 Corrigendum Notice (2nd) It is hereby notified to all concerned that e-tender Notice (Memo Number) : PUST/PD/e-GP/OTM/40 (Corrigendum) ; date: 12 December, 2020 is hereby amended as below:

বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান মেরিটাইম ইউনিভার্সিটি, বাংলাদেশ ১৪/৬ - ১৪/২৩, পল্লবী, মিরপুর-১২, ঢাকা-১২১৬ ফোনঃ ০১৭৬৯-৭২১০১০, ফ্যাক্সঃ ০৯৬০৬২৪৮২৪৮ ই-মেইলঃ regoffice@bsmmu.edu.bd তারিখঃ ২০/১২/২০২০ নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকারের ২০১৩ সনের ৪৭ নং আইন দ্বারা প্রতিষ্ঠিত বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান মেরিটাইম ইউনিভার্সিটি, বাংলাদেশ-এর জন্য নিম্নবর্ণিত পদসমূহে শিক্ষক নিয়োগ করা হইবে।

বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক ব্যাংকার্স সিলেকশন কমিটি সচিবালয় প্রধান কার্যালয় মতিবিল, ঢাকা-১০০০। বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং- ১৮৪/২০২০ তারিখ : ০৫ পৌষ ১৪২৭ ২০ ডিসেম্বর ২০২০ জনতা ব্যাংক লিমিটেড এ ২০১৬ সাল তৈরিকৃত 'অফিসার্স(ক্যাশ)' এর ৬৩০টি শূন্য পদে নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে লিখিত পরীক্ষার উত্তীর্ণ প্রার্থীদের অনলাইন আবেদনের সমর্থনে স্বাক্ষরপত্র জমাদান এবং মৌখিক পরীক্ষা গ্রহণের সময়সূচী সংক্রান্ত বিজ্ঞপ্তি।