# Killing fields, mass graves of '71 lie unprotected

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Noakhal

While most of the killing fields and mass graves of 1971 in Sadar and Begumganj upazilas are hardly recognisable now, the three sites where memorials had been built lie in utter disrepair.

Built to commemorate war crimes committed during the War of Independence in 1971 by the Pakistan occupation forces and their local collaborators, two among the three memorials have become safe haven for hooligans and drug addicts.

Locals said the indifference of the authorities concerned in ensuring routine maintenance and proper security measures for the establishments have created the

'Badhwabhumi Memorial and Liberation War Museum of 1971' was built by Begumganj district council in front of Begumganj Technical Government

But the museum was never opened to public and its main entrance till date remains occupied

> Built to commemorate war crimes committed during the War of Independence in 1971, two among the three memorials have become safe haven for hooligans and drug addicts.

by transport workers and passengers throughout the entire day till late at

second mass grave The memorial, also built by Begumganj district council, is at Kala Pool in Chaumuhani municipal area.

Abul Hossain Bangalee, former commander of freedom fighters in Begumganj upazila, said 111 people from different areas of the upazila were lined up at the northern side of Kala Pool and shot to death by the Pakistan army.



With its entryway unfinished and turned into a parking area of all sorts of vehicles, the 'Badhwabhumi Memorial and Liberation War Museum of 1971', in Begumganj of Noakhali, remains off limits to general public.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

They dumped most of the bodies in the nearby Wapda canal and buried about 50 to 60 of them near Kala Pool, said Abdul Karim Prakash Chowdhury, 72, a resident of Uttar Nazirpur village.

Another Nazirpur resident, Tayyaba Khatun, 65, said she sustained bullet injuries in 1971 when the Pakistan army attacked their house near Kala Pool.

She also said she witnessed how people were shot and their bodies dumped in the canal near the killing field.

The memorial of Kala Pool is now in a deplorable condition due to lack of maintenance. Moreover, the unprotected establishment has turned into a hotspot for local criminals and drug dealers, especially in the evening and onwards.

Locals requesting anonymity said no one dares to raise objection against the criminals who conduct their illicit activities at the

The third memorial is located at Sonapur Ahmadiyya High School in Sadar upazila.

Karim Bachchu, Mamtazul

Muktijoddha Sangsad in Noakhali, said the monolith placed on the premises of Sonapur Ahmadiyya High School in Sadar upazila bears the testimony of the June 15 massacre of 1971.

Several hundred students, teachers and different professionals from surrounding areas were huddled up that day near the school compound by the Pakistan army and killed.

About 30 to 40 people were killed and buried in a mass grave on the southern side of Maijdi Court Railway Station in Noakhali town and about one hundred and fifty more in Banglabazar area of Chaumuhani, but no steps were taken to preserve these sites, he added.

There were at least five other mass graves in the two upazilas where thousands were massacred and buried en masse, but the historic sites are now unrecognisable, as steps were not taken in time to preserve those, said local freedom

Mosharraf Hossain, a prominent freedom fighter and former general

former deputy commander under secretary of the Noakhali unit of Sector Commanders' Forum, said the five killing fields and mass graves include a site on the southeastern side of Noakhali Sadar Hospital.

All the killing fields or mass graves -- including the sites on the southern side of Noakhali Abdul Malek Ukil Medical College, near Atia Bari Pool in Alipur of Begumganj and the southwest corner of Begumganj Dighi -- deserve to be preserved and protected for their historical significance, said Mozammel Haque Milon, former commander of Noakhali District Freedom Fighters' Parliament.

Contacted, Noakhali Deputy Commissioner Khurshed Alam Khan said statistics on massacre victims of 1971 in Noakhali was not available.

With regards to the miserable state of the liberation war museum in Begumganj and other mass grave memorials in the district, he said advice of freedom fighters would be sought before taking necessary steps in order to protect and preserve all memorials of 1971.

## Bumper Aman yield brings smile to flood-hit Netrakona farmers

Bumper yield of Aman has brought smile to farmers in Netrokona, who had faced several floods this year.

Three back-to-back floods affected Aman fields at initial stage this year, putting thousands of farmers at serious risk of cultivation.

But after the flash floods, insistent and moderate rainfall brought blessings for the farmers as it helped much to wash away the weeds from their field, said Md Habibur Rahman, deputy director of Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) in Netrokona.

Water-logging after the floods also caused delay in transplanting Aman paddy but the farmers overcame the situation transplanting high yielding and late varieties, said the official.

Though the cultivation target was not achieved this year, the Aman production will exceed the target due to bumper production, said the deputy director.

The cultivation target 132425-heactare in the district while Aman was cultivated on 126676-hectare this year with a production target of 585676 tonnes of paddy and the production target will exceed, hopes the official adding that "Around 76 percent of paddy has already been harvested".

Soon after the floods, the DAE started to prepare floating Aman seedbeds

of BR-22, a late variety to support the flood affected farmers in Sadar, Barhatta, Mohangani, Kalmakanda and Purbadhala upazila, said the deputy director.

Seedbeds on 232-hectare were also damaged in the flash floods, the official

Faruq Ahmed, upazila agriculture officer in Kalmakanda, said the cultivation target was 15275-hectare but Aman was cultivated on 14625-hectare against its production target around 54200 tonnes of paddy in the upazila.

Due to repeated floods, the cultivation target was not achieved but the production target will be achieved as the farmers here cultivated high-yielding BRRI Dhan varieties in massive form, said the official.

Ayub Ali, a farmer of Hasanuagaon in Kalmakanda, said his Aman field was affected in the flood but he is expecting a high yield from his seven hectares of land.

Alal Uddin, another farmer of the same locality, said a portion of his four-hectare transplanted Aman land was affected in the flash floods but favourable weather in the late season helped them much to get bumper production this year.

Md Mostafa Kamal, upazila agriculture officer in Mohanganj, said some 700 farmers in the upazila cultivated BRRI-75, an early rice variety, and each farmer got some 5.50 tonnes of paddy from per



A smiling farmer harvests paddy at a field in Netrokona's Barhatta upazila. Flood-hit farmers in the district are happy following the bumper production of Aman paddy.

#### Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Local Government Engineering Department Office of the Executive Engineer

District: Laxmipur www.lged.gov.bd

Memo No. 46.02.5100.000.07.001.20-2499

Date: 24-12-2020

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#### e-Tender Notice No. 15/2020-2021

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement

SI	Name of works	Tender	Last selling	Last date & time	Closing &
No.		ID No.	date & time	of tender security	opening date
				submission	& time
	•			Method (LTM)	
1	Rehabilitation of Char	527221	11-01-2021	11-01-2021	11-01-2021
	Shamsuddin North Martin-		12:00pm	14:00pm	16:00pm
	Santirhat Road ID 451745016 from Ch.				
	970m-2525m Package:				
	LGED/Laxm/VRRP/Re-				
	hab/20-21/W-1479				
	[Komolnagar]				
2	Rehabilitation of	527222	11-01-2021	11-01-2021	11-01-2021
l	Lawrance-Martin Road		12:00pm	14:00pm	16:00pm
	ID-451745021 from Ch.				
	00m-715m Package: LGED/Laxm/VRRP/Re-				
	hab/20-21/W-1480				
	[Komolnagar]				
3	Rehabilitation of	527223	11-01-2021	11-01-2021	11-01-2021
	Dasgaria-K.Hat School		12:00pm	14:00pm	16:00pm
	Road ID-451745119 from				
	Ch. 00m-1000m Package: LGED/Laxm/VRRP/Re-				
	hab/20-21/W-1481				
	[Komolnagar]				
4	Rehabilitation of Bastala	527687	11-01-2021	11-01-2021	11-01-2021
	Munshirhat Bazar Road		12:00pm	14:00pm	16:00pm
	ID-451584048 from Ch.				
	00m-1100m Package: LGED/Laxm/VRRP/Re-				
	hab/20-21/W-1497				
	[Raipur]				
5	Rehabilitation of Singhar	527688	11-01-2021	11-01-2021	11-01-2021
	Pool Toslim Patwary		12:00pm	14:00pm	16:00pm
	Road ID-451585131 from				
	Ch. 00m-1500m Package:				
	LGED/Laxm/VRRP/Re- hab/20-21/W-1498				
l	1100/20-21/77-1430				

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches. Only Lakshmipur, Feni & Noakhali District LGED's enlisted contractor of updated license holders will be able to participate in this tender. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk

[Raipur]

GD-2075



**Executive Engineer** Phone: 0381-62462 E-mail: xen.laxmipur@lged.gov.bd

### Kishoreganj villagers' clash leaves 2 dead, 30 injured

OUR CORRESPONDENT,

At least two people were killed and 30 others injured in a clash between people of two rival villages in Kishoreganj's Itna upazila yesterday morning.

The deceased are Badal Mia, 40, son of Noor Hossain of Projarkanda village, and Miraj Mia, 70, son of late Lal Mia of adjacent Shantipur village in the upazila.

Quoting the villagers, Officer in Charge (OC) of Itna Police Station Morshed Mohammad Zaman said there had been a rivalry between people of Projarkanda and neighbouring Shantipur villager over different issues for long.

On Friday night, an altercation took place between two groups of the rival villages over boarding on an auto-rickshaw at a local stand.

Later, elderly people and representatives from both the villages sat for an arbitration at Amirganj Bazar the same night.

At one stage of the arbitration, people of Shantipur village beat up one Ataur Rahman of Projarkanda village, triggering a fresh tension among people of both the villages, the OC said.

As a sequel, hundreds of inhabitants of the two villages, equipped with sharp weapons, locked in a fierce clash in Andhair area around 6:00am that left two people dead on the spot and 30 others injured, police said.

The injured admitted to Kishoreganj General Hospital and Habiganj's Ajmiriganj Upazila Health Complex, the OC said, adding that, additional police have been deployed at both the villages to avert any untoward situation.

GD-2074



## Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.

#### **Invitation for Tender**

1	Ministry	//Division			Ministry of	Social Welfa		
2		ng Entity Name				Social Welfa		
3		ng Entity Code			Not used at	present		
4		ng Entity District			Dhaka, Bar	ngladesh		
5	Invitatio	on for			Goods			
6	Invitatio	n Ref No			41.00.0000	.017.07.009.2	0.764	
7	Date				22-12-2020	)		
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8		ment Method			OTM (Ope	n Tender Met	hod)	
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11		Package No.			020-21)			
12		Package Name				Stationary go	ods), Lot-02 (Toner cartridge & Scanner)	
13		Publication Date		27-12				
14		Last Selling Date		10-01	THE RESIDENCE AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY OF TH		Time: 05.00 pm	
15		Closing Date and Time		11-01			Time: 12.00 pm	
16		Opening Date and Time		11-01-			Time: 12.30 pm	
17	Name & Address of the office(s)			Ministry of Social Welfare, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.				
	- Selling Tender Document (Principal)			Deputy Secretary, Administration-2, Ministry of Social Welfare, Room#301(ka),				
	, , ,			Building#6, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.				
	- Selling Tender Document (Others)			Not Applicable				
	- Receiving Tender Document			Deputy Secretary, Administration-2, Ministry of Social Welfare, Room#301(ka),				
				Building#6, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.				
	- Opening Tender Document			Additional Secretary, Ministry of Social Welfare, Room#301, Building#6,				
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