



PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Waterlogging inside the Dhaka-Narayanganj-Demra embankment makes the life of local people miserable, but the authorities remain indifferent.

## Rains further aggravate DND waterlogging

### STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The waterlogging situation in Dhaka-Narayanganj-Demra (DND) dam area has further aggravated following incessant rains in last two days.

Fresh areas have been inundated, while water level in many other areas which were already under water has risen by at least one foot.

M Noyon, a resident of Hajinagar under Sarulia union in Demra said,

Water has entered into our house and most roads in our areas are under water. The situation has become worse following the rains on Thursday night."

Many people have already left home for safer places, while many are still fighting for their survival.

Owners of many fish ponds and other business firms are incurring losses due to waterlogging.

During a visit to some parts of DND in Demra portion it was found that the flow of logged water is very low as many people have made houses either grabbing the drainage channels or without keeping any outlets to drain out the rainwater.

In Narayanganj, locals blamed some mills and factories responsible for their untold sufferings. They alleged that the relatives of some ruling BNP ministers have constructed the business structures after grabbing the DND canal.

A drive was launched last month to evict the encroachers, but it was suspended later.

Many residents have also alleged that no proper steps were taken to drain out the logged rainwater.

Mafizur Rahman, a local of Boxnagar under Sarulia union, said no effective steps were taken to reduce the untold sufferings of more than one million people in last 10 days.

When contacted at Shimrail DND Pump House in Narayanganj, Modasser Hossain, executive engineer of Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB), said, "Our four regular pumps with a capacity of 128 cusec are in operation. In addition, eight more small pumps of

five cusec capacity will be installed in next couple of days."

When contacted, Qamrul Alam Chowdhury, superintendent engineer of Dhaka Water and Sewerage Authority drainage circle, said, "We have sent five pumps of five cusec capacity which have been installed at Pagla following a request of the local lawmaker."

A large areas of Amtola, Dogair, Deilla, Hajinagar, Tengra, Boxnagar, Basherpul, Konapara, Kajla, Donia, Rayerbag and Matuail under Demra portion, and Shanarpar, Nemaikashari, Bagmara, Jalkuri, Bhuigarh, Lamapara, Kadamtoli, Pagla, Kutubpur and other parts of Narayanganj portion have been flooded by rain water.

Meanwhile, Bikalpa Dhara Bangladesh (BDB) yesterday formed a human chain on Narayanganj link road demanding immediate solution of waterlogging in DND area by evicting all grabbers.

Our Narayanganj correspondent adds: Hundreds of people yesterday marched about 10 kilometers on the district roads demanding urgent steps to solve the waterlogging problems of DND areas.

A citizens' forum named 'DND Bachao Nagorik Committee' organised the road march that started from Chashara, and ended at the same place after marching through several roads.

The affected people took part in the road march spontaneously.

Later, a rally was held there.