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3,300 landless families await settlement

JASIM MAJUMDER, Khagrachhari

At least 3,300 landless indigenous families have not yet got permanent settlement of the government land where they have been living for 30 years.

Sources said the government gave 20,625 acres upland (high land) to 3,300 families in 1979-1980 financial year under the 'Chittagong Hill Tracts Development Board upland project' to settle floating indigenous people in CHT.

Each family was provided with 6.25 acres land and other facilities including house to make them financially independent.

According to deputy commissioner's (DC) office, the government rehabilitated 600 families in Bhaibonchhara, 580 families in Gasbon, 220 families in Bairafa, 600 families in Dighinala, 500 families in Matiranga under Khagrachhari district while 300 families in Bagaichhari area under Rangamati and 500 families in Bandarban.

The government also made a contract with those people in the same year of their rehabilitation (1979-1980) and assured them of giving permanent settlement with appropriate land documents by the authority concerned.

"As per the contract, we have been looking after the land and orchard since 1979-1980. The authority concerned is also taking 40 per cent of the total income every year according to the contract. But the government still keeps us as temporary caretakers," said Madhusudan Tripura, 50, a landless person of Gasbon area under Sadar upazila in the district.

When asked about the reason for delay, General Manager (GM) of the Upland Project under CHT Development Board Mohammad Ali Hydar said the settlement process was ignored due to negligence of former GM.

"I've already completed all process to bring 3,300 landless indigenous people under a permanent settlement as per the contract between them and the CHT Development Board," he said, adding that it now depends on the DC's office.

DC Mohammad Abdullah said the process could not be completed due to complication related to land and lack of a proper survey.

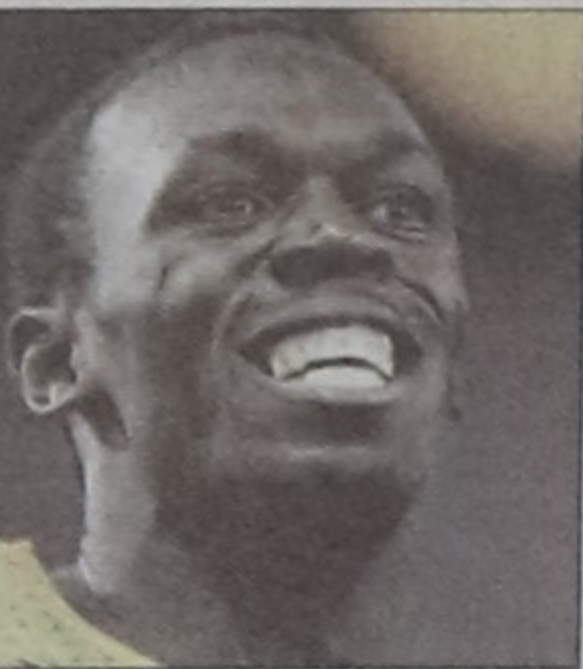
"We are not the sole authority for their permanent settlement. The three Parbatya Zilla Parishads are also responsible as per Parbatya Zilla Parishad Act, 1989," he said.

He said some 1,270 applications of the landless people were pending with the assistant commissioner's (land) office while 1,217 applications with DC office, 563 with Khagrachhari Hill District Council for land registration.

Khagrachhari Hill District Council



Fishermen sell a large number of hilsa near Barisal Port after a three-month hiatus following a government ban. The apparently huge supply of hilsa plummeted its price in the market.



Bolt smashes 200m record

AGENCIES, Undated

Triple Olympic champion Usain Bolt of Jamaica shattered his 200 metres world record in Berlin when he clocked 19.19 seconds to win gold at the World Championships.

He beat the mark of 19.30 he had set a year ago to the day

Food aid for poor raised for Ramadan

One crore people to be brought under VGF programme

PORIMOL PALMA

The government has taken an initiative for providing food assistance to around one crore poor families across the country during the month of Ramadan under the VGF (Vulnerable Group Feeding) programme.

The food ministry officials said it has already allocated around 98,436 tonnes of rice. It also asked the district administrations to collect the rice before August 25.

"We want the poor to have some comfort during the holy Ramadan month; so, we increased the number of VGF cards," Food and Disaster Management Minister Dr Abdur Razzaque told The Daily Star.

As many as 56 lakh families were under the safety programme last year. The present government has increased the number to 70.65 lakh early this year, which has further been increased to one crore ahead of Ramadan.

Two thousand poor families in each union will get 10 kilograms of rice per family.

However, in Monga-hit districts -- Rangpur, Gaibandha, Lalmonirhat, Kurigram and Nilphamari -- the beneficiary families will be 2200 in number, and each family will get 20 kilograms of rice.

The people affected by

KILLING, RAPE Hartal called in Panchhari today

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khagrachhari

Samo Odhikar Andolan and its student front Parbatya Bangalee Chhatra Parishad have jointly called a dawn to dusk hartal today at Panchhari upazila in Khagrachhari protesting the killing after rape of a woman of Islampur village in the upazila.

Police said, the agitating activists of the organisations had called the hartal protesting the killing of Nasima, 23, and demanding immediate arrest and exemplary punishment of killers.

Nasima, 23, wife of Mohammad Khokon Mian, went missing on Monday

DOWNPOUR, FLASH FLOOD 60,000 marooned in Lalmonirhat

STAR REPORT

Low-lying areas in 40 villages of Lalmonirhat and seven unions of Jamalpur have been inundated following heavy downpour and flash flood causing immense sufferings to thousands of people in the areas.

Around 60,000 people were marooned in the chars in Teesta and Dharala and low-lying areas in Hatibandha, Kaliganj, Tangail, Manikganj, Munshiganj districts, and Dohar and Nabanganj upazilas of Dhaka are likely to be inundated by the next 24 to 72 hours. The situation may remain worsen during the next few days.

The overall flood situation of the country may deteriorate in next two or three days, the bulletin added.

Our Lalmonirhat correspondent reports sudden onrush of

Army man crushed under train wheels

UNB, Habiganj

An army personnel was killed as a speeding train knocked him down at Olipur rail gate in Sadar upazila yesterday morning.

The deceased was identified as Masud Parvez, 33, a lance corporal of Bangladesh Army. He worked at Shahjibazar power plant camp.

Police and witnesses said Sylhet-bound 'Parbati Express train' from Dhaka hit Masud when he was crossing the rail track at about 10:00pm, killing him on the spot.

Masud was returning Shahjibazar army camp from



This motorbike rider sees the unmarked gaping hole on Babubazar Road in Old Dhaka at the last moment and manages to avoid an accident. The poor condition of city streets is reflected elsewhere in Dhaka as well.

US drone strike kills 13 in Pakistan

Pak forces kill 12 militants

AFP, Miranshah/Peshawar

A pre-dawn US missile strike yesterday killed at least 13 people in a border tribal area of northwest Pakistan known as a Taliban hideout while 12 other militants were killed by Pak security forces in the same tribal region, officials said.

A missile hit a house near Miranshah, the main town in North Waziristan, at 3:50 am (2150 GMT Thursday), a Pakistani security official told AFP.

"It was a drone attack. The missile targeted a house in Dandey Darpa Khel," he said, adding that the building was badly damaged.

"So far 13 bodies have been

Poisonous gas claims 2 lives

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Poisonous gas, trapped inside a well, claimed the life of two day labourers at Cinema Hall area in Chuadanga sadar yesterday.

AFGHAN PRESIDENTIAL POLLS Karzai, Abdullah teams claim victory

AP, Kabul

Campaign teams for President Hamid Karzai and top challenger Abdullah Abdullah each positioned themselves yesterday as the winner of Afghanistan's presidential election, one day after millions of Afghans braved dozens of militant attacks to cast ballots.

Partial preliminary results won't be made public before Saturday, as Afghanistan and the dozens of countries with troops and aid organisations in the country wait to see who will lead the troubled nation for the next five years. The next president faces an agenda filled with crises: rising insurgent violence, rampant corruption and a huge narcotics trade.

Claims of early victory by Karzai and Abdullah were an attempt to win the expectations game, and officials with the country's Independent Election Commission said it was too early for any campaign to claim itself the winner.

Abdullah's camp said it was investigating claims of fraud across southern provinces where Karzai would expect to do well.

A Times of London report Friday said election officials at a polling station near Kabul

Prayer Timing August 22

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-30	6-05
Zohr	1-45	2-15
Asr	5-45	6-00
Maghrib	7-33	7-36
Esha	9-00	9-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

OnlinePoll

Do you think authorities should investigate the deaths of radio collared tigers in the Sunderbans four years ago to find out if reckless research was responsible for their deaths?

☐ Yes (85.8%)
☐ No (11.8%)
☐ No Comments (2.4%)

Total votes: 914

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think the government will be able to ease traffic congestion only by seizing unfit, unlicensed and old vehicles and taking stern actions against illegal parking?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

রাজধানী উন্নয়ন কর্তৃপক্ষ

রাজউক ভবন, ঢাকা

সতর্কীকরণ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এতদ্বারা সর্বসাধারণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, সশস্ত্রতৎকালে বিভিন্ন পত্র-পত্রিকা, রেডিও, টেলিভিশন ও অন্যান্য প্রচার মাধ্যমে যমুনা-বসুন্ধরা হাউজিং লিমিটেড, ইস্ট ওয়েস্ট প্রপার্টি ডেভেলপমেন্ট (প্রাঃ) লিঃ (বসুন্ধরা) এর রিভারভিউ আবাসিক প্রকল্প, বাংলাদেশ ডেভেলপমেন্ট কোম্পানী লিঃ (বিভিসি) এর ইস্ট টাউন, নর্থ টাউন, সাউথ টাউন প্রকল্পে গুট বিক্রয়ের চমকপ্রদ বিজ্ঞাপন প্রচার করছে। কিন্তু এ সকল আবাসিক প্রকল্প যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক অনুমোদিত নয়।

বেসরকারি আবাসিক প্রকল্পের ভূমি উন্নয়ন বিধিমালা ২০০৪ মোতাবেক যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক সংশ্লিষ্ট বেসরকারি প্রকল্প অনুমোদনের পূর্বে প্রস্তাবিত প্রকল্প এলাকার কোন প্লট বা ভূমি বা ইমারত বিক্রয় বা বরাদ্দ প্রদানের জন্য কোন বিজ্ঞাপন প্রকাশ বা প্রচার কার্য পরিচালনা করা যাবে না এবং প্রকল্প সংক্রান্ত যে কোন সাইন বোর্ড, বিজ্ঞাপন, প্রচার বা যোগাযোগপত্রে কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত অনুমোদন নম্বর উল্লেখ করতে হবে। এছাড়াও রাজউক কর্তৃক নিবন্ধনকৃত কতিপয় কোম্পানী তাদের প্রকল্পগুলো সরকার কর্তৃক চূড়ান্ত অনুমোদিত না হওয়া সত্ত্বেও বিজ্ঞাপন প্রচার করছে যা সম্পূর্ণ বিধি পরিপন্থী।

বেসরকারি হাউজিং কোম্পানীর নিকট হতে জমি বা ফ্ল্যাট ক্রয়ের পূর্বে সংশ্লিষ্ট কোম্পানীগুলো যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক প্রকল্প অনুমোদিত আছে কিনা তা অবশ্যই যাচাই করে নেয়ার জন্য জনসাধারণকে অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে। অননুমোদিত বেসরকারি হাউজিং প্রকল্পের প্লট বা ফ্ল্যাট ক্রয়ের ক্ষেত্রে জনসাধারণকে সতর্ক থাকার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো।

সচিব
রাজধানী উন্নয়ন কর্তৃপক্ষ, ঢাকা

জিডি-৩৮২১

: বিআরটিএ'র বিজ্ঞপ্তি :

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এক্ষেত্রে যাত্রী সাধারণসহ সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের আন্তরিক সহযোগিতা কামনা করা যাচ্ছে।

জিডি-৩৮৭৫

পরিচালক (এনফোর্সমেন্ট)