

# Rangamati townspeople deprived of civic amenities

SHANTIMOY CHAKMA, Rangamati

Rangamati Municipality with 64.75 square kilometre area and about two lakh inhabitants is plagued with multifarious problems for long.

Although Rangamati Municipality was upgraded to 'A' category in 1998, it has failed to ensure adequate civic amenities for the town dwellers.

Inadequate supply of safe drinking water, lack of sewerage system and public toilets, lack of separate shed for slaughtering animals, insufficient street lights, inadequate recreation park, narrow roads and insufficient space for graveyard are some of the problems affecting the residents.

Rangamati Municipality Mayor Habibur Rahman, who was elected twice, said, "I am working relentlessly to ensure all kinds of civic amenities for my townspeople."

He, however, said the authority cannot construct public toilets due to lack of land.

The mayor blamed the local 'bazar fund' authority as it often interferes with municipality works, especially during land selection for construction of public toilets.

"Many times we informed the mayor about the urgency of repair of the public toilet at Tabalchhari Bazar. We also submitted an application for the same but no step has been taken," said Zahir Ahmad Sawdagor, president of Tabalchhari Bazar

Committee, adding the existing public toilets have become unfit for use due to lack of renovation.

"There is no specific shed or area for slaughtering animals. Goats and cows are slaughtered on drain or under the common shed of the bazar without any medical test. It causes harm to environment and poses threat of deadly diseases like anthrax," he added.

"On the basis of routine work, our staff often clean existing public toilets," said Mayor Habibur Rahman.

Twenty public toilets were earlier set up in the municipality area but most of those were removed after two to three years of construction due to 'unknown reasons'.

Ramiz Ahmad, a member of the Bazar Committee at Tabalchhari, said there was a public toilet for women at Tabalchhari Bazar, which was removed four months ago.

"We the people of Tabalchhari submitted an application to the ward commissioner for reconstruction of the public toilets but to no effect," he said.

Due to lack of public toilet, floating people and day labourers often respond to the call of nature on open spaces beside roads, drains, canals, even the Kaptai Lake, causing health and sanitation hazards.

Seabratra Barua, an officer of sanitation and health department of Rangamati Municipality, said, "We often visit differ-

ent areas to check sanitation situation and restaurants for maintaining hygiene but we have nothing to do if the authority does not set up new public toilet."

Tourists, pedestrians, women, children, elderly people, small shopkeepers and people of low income group like auto-rickshaw drivers, day labourers, hawkers are facing problems due to inadequate public toilet.

Kazi Nazrul Islam, a former chairman of Rangamati Poursabha, said adequate public toilets along with other civic amenities that were available when Rangamati was a third or second class municipality, are now absent.

Due to lack of sewerage drains, human wastes and garbage of the municipality are thrown directly into the Kaptai Lake everyday.

The inhabitants often face crisis of safe drinking water as the municipality authority failed to set up sufficient potable water points. Most of the municipality dwellers have installed deep tube-well at their residence with own cost.

Moreover, most of the areas become dark soon after evening due to absence of streetlights.

The lone recreation park in the municipality area was leased out for nursery five years ago.

Even, the place reserved for graveyard is not sufficient, locals alleged.

Besides, there is no vehicle for carrying unclaimed dead bodies.

## Teachers oppose 'illegal' move to appoint headmaster

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khagrachhari

Teachers of Khagrachhari Municipal Model High School have demanded cancellation of the school authorities' 'illegal' initiative to appoint a headmaster who does not have required qualifications.

"Defying government rules, chairman of the school managing committee Madhu Mongal Chakma has completed procedure to appoint

Nobo Kumar Chakma as headmaster," Amarendra Chakma, a teacher of the school, said in his written statement on behalf of the teachers in a press briefing at Khagrachhari Press Club yesterday.

"Nobo Kumar Chakma does not have any teachers' registration ID or enrolment under Monthly Payment Order (MPO). As per government rules, he is not eligible for appointment at any MPO-

listed school," he said.

He alleged bribery behind the initiative to appoint Nobo Kumar as headmaster.

Amarendra Chakma announced that teachers will observe daily one-hour abstention from classes from October 8 if their demand is not met by next 72 hours.

They will submit memo to Deputy Commissioner on October 8, meet with guardians and Teachers Association Leaders on October 9 and meet

with local lawmaker and other local government representatives on October 10 as part of continued agitation, he said.

Seven of the nine teachers of the school attended the press conference.

They are Amarendra Chakma, Pranjal Kanti Chakma (teachers' representative in school managing committee), Md Mahbul Hoque, Devashish Khisha, Sumoty Chakma, Rupayon Talukder and Jamal Uddin.



PHOTO: STAR

**INSTANT PUNISHMENT!** A group of alleged drug addicts, who gathered at a contraband drug selling centre at Barisal Colony in Chittagong city yesterday, do sit-ups holding ear as law enforcers give them the 'punishment of warning' instead of taking to the police station.

## Gamblers attack cops in Rajshahi, 2 injured

### 12 including gang leader held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Armed gamblers beat up two plainclothes policemen near a police camp set up here in the district collectorate field here on Monday night.

Injured police constables--Farhad Hossain and Sona Miah--were admitted to Rajshahi Medical College and

Hospital with serious head injuries.

Police arrested 12 people, including gang leader Razzak Khan Tutul, early yesterday after Havildar Rezanul Haq of the police camp lodged a case with Rajpara Police Station.

The policemen came under attack at around 11:00pm when they went to a fair organised at the

collectorate field.

Injured Sona Miah said the gamblers attacked them when they moved towards them to disperse an unusual gathering at the fair.

"Some of them swooped on Farhad and tore off his T-shirt. We managed to catch one of them and handed him over to the police camp," he added.

When they went out of the camp, about 20 gamblers equipped with bamboos and bricks attacked them. Hearing their screams, other police personnel of the camp rushed to the spot and rescued them.

Shahidul Islam, officer-in-charge of Rajpara Police Station, said he was unaware about gambling at the fair. "We have started an investigation and arrested a number of people for their alleged involvement in the incident."

## Clash at wedding party, one killed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

One person was stabbed to death during a clash between two groups of people at a wedding party here on Monday night.

The victim was identified as Sagor Das, 19, son of Sanjib Das of Lauarkhil village under Patiya upazila of the district.

The clash ensued when relatives of the bride and bridegroom locked in an altercation over seat arrangement for the wedding feast at Diamond Community Centre near Bahodderhat intersection at around 11:00pm.

During the clash, Sagor received stab injuries in his chest and abdomen. He was rushed to the Chittagong Medical College and Hospital (CMCH) where he died at around 6:45am yesterday, said Sub-Inspector (SI) Arup Biswas of Panchlaish Police Station.



With erosion by the Padma River taking an alarming turn during the last two weeks, this brick-built road at Shara in Pabna district has gone into the riverbed.

PHOTO: STAR

## Power-hungry people block highway

A CORRESPONDENT, Munshiganj

Local people barricaded Dhaka-Mawa highway in front of Mawa Super Market under Louhajang upazila of the district for an hour yesterday demanding uninterrupted power supply in the area.

Sources said the agitated people blocked the highway for an hour from 9:45am and also held a rally protesting power outage in the area. The blockade created a huge tail-back on the highway for hours.

The power-hungry people withdrew the blockade after local administration assured them of taking measures to ensure power supply in the area.

Earlier, the people of the area had barricaded the highway twice on the same demand, but to no effect. Mohadev Saha, one of the demonstrators, said they get electricity only for two to three hours a day.

## 250 houses, 50 shops damaged as storm hits Gaibandha, B'baria

STAR NATIONAL DESK

At least 250 dwelling houses and 50 shops were damaged and ten people injured as storms lashed two upazilas of Gaibandha and Brahmanbaria district yesterday.

In Gaibandha, a storm accompanied by rain and gusty wind hit Sadar upazila of the district at around 4:30pm, damaging at least 250 houses and injuring seven people, reports our correspondent.

The storm that lasted for half an hour also uprooted a large number of trees and electric poles. Tin-made roofs

of many houses and some educational institutions were blown away.

Seven people injured in house collapse were given first aid at local hospital.

Afzal Hakkani, chairman of Kholahati Union Parishad, said at least 200 dwelling houses in eight villages under his union were damaged by the storm.

Chairman of Gidari Union Parishad Anisur Rahman also claimed that the storm damaged over 50 houses in two villages under the union.

In Brahmanbaria, a violent

storm lashed Jinadpur Bazar in Nabinagar upazila at around 2:30pm, leaving at least 50 shops and a school damaged and three people injured.

Besides, a large number of trees and electric poles were uprooted by the storm. The injured--Nazrul Islam, 45, Nabi Hossain, 35, and another unidentified woman--were sent to Dhaka and upazila health complex.

Abdur Rouf, Chairman of Jinadpur Union Parishad, said the storm, which lasted for several minutes, left a trail of destruction in the area.

## বিজ্ঞপ্তি

সবাই মিলে দিব কর দেশ হবে স্বনির্ভর

### মূল্য সংযোজন কর (ভ্যাট) পরিশোধকারী ব্যবসায়ীগণ লক্ষ্য করুনঃ

মুসক পরিশোধকারী ব্যবসায়ীগণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, নিম্নবর্ণিত তিনটি পদ্ধতিতে ব্যবসায়ী পর্যায়ের মুসক পরিশোধের বিধান রয়েছেঃ

(১) প্রকৃত মূল্য সংযোজনের ভিত্তিতে ব্যবসায়ী কর্তৃক মুসক প্রদানঃ

- এই পদ্ধতিতে আমাদানিকৃত বা ক্রয়কৃত পণ্যের ওপর প্রকৃত পরিমাণ মূল্য সংযোজনের ভিত্তিতে বিভাগীয় কর্মকর্তার নিকট থেকে মূল্য অনুমোদন নিতে হবে।
- পণ্য বিক্রয়ের সময় সর্বমোট মূল্যের ওপর ১.৫% হারে মুসক পরিশোধ করতে হবে।
- উক্ত পণ্য আমদানি বা ক্রয়ের সময় পরিশোধিত মুসক রেয়াত নেয়া যাবে।
- এই পদ্ধতির ব্যবসায়ীকে ক্রয় হিসাব "মুসক-১৬" চালানপত্র "মুসক-১১"/ "মুসক-১১ক", বিক্রয় হিসাব "মুসক-১৭", চলতি হিসাব "মুসক-১৮" এবং দাখিলপত্র "মুসক-১৯" সহ সংশ্লিষ্ট অন্যান্য দলিল সংরক্ষণ করতে হবে।

(২) ১০.৩৩% মূল্য সংযোজনের ভিত্তিতে ২% মুসক প্রদানঃ

- এই পদ্ধতির ব্যবসায়ীকে ৩১ জুলাই তারিখের মধ্যে প্রতি অর্থ বছরের জন্য বিভাগীয় কর্মকর্তার নিকট নির্দিষ্ট ফরমে ঘোষণা দাখিল করতে হবে।
- আমাদানিকৃত বা ক্রয়কৃত পণ্যের ওপর ১০.৩৩% মূল্য সংযোজন করে সর্বমোট মূল্যের ওপর ২% হারে মুসক প্রদান করতে হবে।
- কোন মাসের প্রদেয় মুসক পরবর্তী মাসের ১৫ তারিখের মধ্যে ট্রেজারী চালানের মাধ্যমে জমা প্রদান করে উহা দাখিলপত্রের সাথে মুসক সার্কেল অফিসে দাখিল করতে হবে।
- এ ধরনের ব্যবসায়ী রেয়াত নিতে পারবেন না।
- এই পদ্ধতিতে ব্যবসায়ীকে প্রতিটি ক্রয়, বিক্রয়, সরবরাহের হিসাব, নিজস্ব বাণিজ্যিক দলিলাদি, চালানপত্র, চলতি হিসাব "মুসক-১৮" এবং দাখিলপত্র "মুসক-১৯" সংরক্ষণ করতে হবে।

(৩) ক্ষুদ্র খুচরা ব্যবসায়ী বা দোকানদারের ক্ষেত্রে মুসক প্রদানঃ

এই ধরনের ব্যবসায়ী ক্ষেত্রে নির্ধারিত মুসকের পরিমাণ নিম্নরূপঃ

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- দেশের অন্যান্য এলাকা: বার্ষিক ১,৮০০/- টাকা।
- এই পরিমাণ মুসক বার্ষিক এককালীন বা মাসিক কিস্তিতে পরিশোধ করা যাবে।
- এ ধরনের ব্যবসায়ীগণ কর্তৃক পণ্য ক্রয়ের দলিলাদিসহ ক্যাশমেনো ও বিক্রয় পুস্তক সংরক্ষণ করতে হবে।

প্রচারেঃ মূল্য সংযোজন কর অনুবিভাগ

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