



The bailey bridge across Kewabunia canal on Dashmina-Nehalganj road in Patuakhali district has remained in a awfully dilapidated condition while the bridge across Daspara canal on the same road lacks approach road, posing serious risk for the users.



PHOTO: STAR

All 3 bridges of a road in bad shape

SOHRAB HOSSAIN,
Patuakhali

All the three bridges on Dashmina-Nehalganj Road under Dashmina upazila are in awfully bad shape.

Local people cross these bridges with acute risk. School going boys and girls also suffer greatly as they cannot use the bridges at school hours.

Local Government

Engineering Department (LGED) of Dashmina upazila constructed a bailey bridge over Kawabunia canal in 2002 at a cost of Tk 9 lakh. As the contractor did not build the approach road the locals cannot use it. Local union parishad filled some area with earth to link the bridge but still people cannot use it properly.

Another bridge was built

on the same canal in the same year. But after some days the approach road on one side of the bridge collapsed. As a result locals could not use it.

The third bridge over Dashpara canal has also become useless as most areas of its floorboard have broken down making it risky for the users.

"We are facing untold

sufferings as we cannot use any of the three bridges on the road," Abdul Gaffar, a businessman of Nehalganj bazar said.

Over 1,000 students of five educational institutions situated in the adjacent areas are also suffering because of the bad shape of the bridges, Nurul Haque Howlader, UP chairman of Baharpur told

this correspondent.

He demanded immediate repair of the bridges.

Contacted, Md Hanif, upazila engineer of LGED, said that they sent separate estimates for repair of the bridges three years ago but those are yet to be approved.

"We also sent several letters to the higher authorities in this regards but in vain," he added.

KIBRIA KILLING CASE

Date for filing further probe report by CID deferred again

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal Judge of Sylhet yesterday deferred the date for filing the report of the 'further investigation' in Kibria killing case to 2 January 2011.

The court set the new date again as the Special Public Prosecutor Kishore Kumar Kar prayed for fresh time extension stating that the CID needed more time for filing the report.

Sources said it was the 48th date given by the court as the CID could not submit the 'further investigation report' during the last 44 months.

The then investigation officer of the case Senior ASP of CID Munshi Atiqur Rahman through a petition on 7 March 2007 informed the Sylhet Divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal about necessity of the 'further investigation'.

ASP Md Rafiqul Islam was given the task as Munshi went on retirement after a few months. Asked, ASP Rafiqul Islam, investigation officer of the case said that their 'further investigation' was still going on. He, however could not ascertain when the job would be completed.

Former finance minister SAMS Kibria, his nephew advocate Shah Manzurul Huda, local AL leaders -- Abdur Rahim, Abul Hossain and Siddique Ali were killed in grenade attack on a

public meeting at Boidderbazar of Habiganj Sadar upazila on 27 January of 2005.

CID's much-talked officer Senior ASP Munshi Atique filed chargesheet in the case on 20 March that year against 10 accused.

Of the accused, eight have been rounded up while two are still absconding. The eight, including Habiganj district BNP vice-president Abdul Quaiyum spent three years in jail, before coming out on bail on 15 July of 2008 while the others were freed 24 July. The group at a press conference claimed that they were falsely implicated in the case.

Later, the CID started further investigation.

The Rab on 8 March 2010 arrested alleged Huji operative Mizanur Rahman Mithu, who gave confessional statement before judicial magistrate in Habiganj the following day. The CID then remanded the former state minister for home affairs Luthfuzzaman Babar in connection with the same case.

At a stage, Huji chief Mufti Abdul Hannan and operatives including his brother Muhibullah alias Muhibur Rahman alias Ovi, Sharif Shahedul Alam Bipul, Syed Naim Ahmed alias Arif and Mufti Mainuddin alias Abu Zandal were shown arrested in the case. The others are still at large.

UPDF's demands

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Rangamati

United People's Democratic Front (UPDF), an organisation opposing the 1997 peace treaty signed between the government and Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity, took up different programmes including discussion meetings in different areas of Rangamati, Bandarban and Khagrachhari districts on its 12th founding anniversary yesterday.

UPDF leaders urged the government to meet their 12-point demand including constitutional rights for indigenous people, declaration of autonomy in CHT region for ethnic minorities, withdrawal of the army from CHT and stoppage of 'Operation Uttaran', ensuring land rights for indigenous people, returning the lands grabbed by Bangalee settlers to the jumo people, end to repression and sexual harassment on indigenous women in hills, end to

repression on UPDF leaders and activists and unconditional release of their leaders and workers arrested by police and army.

In a meeting held at Naniachar in Rangamati, the UPDF leaders criticised the district administration for not allowing meeting of their activists in different areas. They also blamed the army for preventing their leaders and activists from joining the gathering at Naniachar.

UPDF leaders Sushil Jiban Chakma, Binoy Krishna Khisa, Bighna Khisa, and Hill Women's Federation leaders Juthika Chakma and Tapu Moni Chakma spoke at the programme.

Meetings were also held at UPDF offices at Swansvar in Khagrachhari and Balaghata in Bandarban.

Ruet students lock classrooms

RU CORRESPONDENT

Students of civil engineering department at Rajshahi University of Engineering and Technology (Ruet) yesterday put all the classrooms of the department under lock and key demanding removal of the department head.

They also laid a siege to the department office for one hour to press home their demand.

Students alleged that Prof Iqbal Matin, the head of the department, misbehaved with them whenever they met him to discuss academic problems.

They also alleged that following his taking charge as head of the department they are facing session jam because of delay in publishing results of different sessions.

Sources said no classes and examinations of the department were held as the department authorities did not take any initiatives to unlock the classrooms yesterday.

Denying the allegations, Prof Iqbal Matin told this correspondent that he did not know the causes of the students' agitation.

"Any one can come to me to talk any problem," Prof Iqbal said adding some students are trying to create untoward situation to disrupt the congenial atmosphere of the department.

Four cold storages fear loss for lack of power supply

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Thakurgaon

Four cold storage owners in Thakurgaon and Panchagarh districts are desperately looking for electricity connection to run their cold storages in the current season. Otherwise, the owners said they have to count huge losses and the growers in the areas also face the same fate due to lack of potato preservation facilities.

Addressing a press conference at Salam Guest House at Asrampara in the town yesterday afternoon, the owners of the four cold storages said though they have paid load preservation fees to local Palli Bidyut Samity as per rules before September 6, they are yet to get electricity connection.

The owners of Amanat Cold Storage, Hawlader Cold Storage, SB Agro Industries Ltd of Thakurgaon Sadar upazila and SB Cold Storage under Debiganj upazila of Panchagarh said they have already completed construction work and installed machinery involving about Tk 40 crore.

We have to incur huge losses if Palli Bidyut Samity fails to give electricity connection within January 15, the cold storage owners said. They urged the authorities concerned to take necessary steps to ensure power connection so that they can run the cold storages in the current season.

There are 11 cold storages in Thakurgaon and Panchagarh districts with a capacity to preserve about 60,000 tonnes of potato.

Thakurgaon farmers cultivated potato on 26,900 hectares of land with a production target of 4,47,883 tonnes while Panchagarh farmers on 8,510 hectares of land with a production target of 1,67,038 tonnes in this season.

About seven lakh tonnes of potatoes were cultivated in the two districts last year and the farmers were compelled to sell their produce at lower prices due to shortage of storage facilities, they said.

Cold storages owners Abdus Salam Hawlader, Mohammad Abdullah, Sheikh Jahangir Alam and Delwar Hossain addressed the conference.



PHOTO: STAR

The Padma River, usually tranquil in winter, suddenly turned turbulent and devoured over 300 metres of area at Bara Naoppara near Ghordour Bazaar in Louhajang in Munshiganj district on Saturday night. Although the intensity lessened yesterday morning, the erosion continued, threatening several set-ups at the upazila headquarters.

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Dhaka Electric Supply Company Ltd. (DESCO)
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Enlistment of Panel of Retainer Lawyers

Dhaka Electric Supply Company Ltd. (DESCO), a Public Limited Company, engaged in distribution of electricity in the Capital City intends to appoint/enlist panel of lawyers on retainer basis for conducting its various legal matters.

Lawyers having expertise in the following fields are encouraged to apply:

- Company Laws.
- Labour and Industrial Laws.
- Trade & Contract related matters.
- The Electricity Act, 1910 (including all amendments).
- Criminal Law (code of criminal procedure, Bangladesh penal code) & any other area.

Terms & Conditions

- Applicant must be a citizen of Bangladesh.
- Applicant must have certificate of enrollment as an advocate in the Lower Court and High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh.
- Applicant must have an LL.B degree with at least 10 (ten) years of experience or LL.M (final) degree with at least 08 (eight) years of experience or Bar-at-Law degree with at least 05 (five) years of experience in legal profession in the Supreme Court of Bangladesh.
- Appointment / Enlistment will be on contract basis for a period of 02 (two) years, which may be extended for further period on mutually agreed terms and conditions in between the incumbent and DESCO Management.
- Application for renewal for engagement as Retainer Lawyers for further period shall be invited at least 02 (two) months ahead of the expiry of the two years contract period.
- For termination of the contract for appointment / enlistment as a Retainer Lawyer at least 90 (ninety) days notice shall be served by either party.
- In case of separation the Retainer Lawyer will hand over all the documents lying with him.

The Retainer Lawyer will be entitled to a monthly retainer fee. In addition, other legal fees/charges will be paid on case-to-case basis as per approved rate schedule of DESCO which may be collected from Administration Division in DESCO Head Office.

Interested candidates are requested to collect the prescribed Application form from the Administration Division of DESCO and submit the same along with attested copies of all academic certificates, certificate of enrolment as advocate and 02 (two) copies of recent passport size photograph in a closed envelope which should reach the office of the undersigned by 26.01.2011. Applicant should mark the field of interest on the top of the envelope.

Only short listed candidates will be invited for discussion with the authority regarding their selection.

DESCO reserves the right to accept or reject any or all applications without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Date: 26/ 12/ 2010
Memo No. DESCO/Admin-33/2010/6227

Noor Mohammad
Dy. General Manager (Admin.)

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