



PHOTO: STAR

A tree bent with jackfruits at Char Anandipur village in Sadar upazila of Mymensingh. The district is expecting a huge production of the juicy summer fruit this year.

Jamuna being dredged to save 2 Tangail upazilas from erosion

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Tangail

Authorities have started dredging the Jamuna to streamline the river system and save the people on the east bank in Bhuapur and Gopalpur upazilas from erosion.

The mighty Jamuna, with its more erratic courses in recent years, leaves a large number of people vulnerable to erosion.

During construction of the Bangabandhu Bridge several years ago, a strong guide embankment was constructed at the west end of the bridge to protect Sirajganj from erosion.

However, areas to the east of the bridge, especially in Bhuapur upazila, remained unprotected as no guide embankment was constructed there.

After construction of the bridge, around 30 thousand dwelling houses, four high schools, 40 government and non-government primary schools, over 40 mosques and madrasas, several bazars and more than 50 villages including a part of the municipality area of Bhuapur upazila went to the riverbed due to the erosion, said sources in Water Development Board (WDB).

Consequently, about one lakh homeless people took shelter at different embankments and started living inhuman lives.

The river erosion has also caused cracks at several points on important Pingna-

Jokarchar flood control embankment cum road, leaving several lakh people of four more upazilas in the district vulnerable to flood.

Responding to the erosion-affected people's demand for dredging the river and constructing a guide embankment to check erosion in the area, WDB recently started implementation of a Tk 39 crore project under Capital (Pilot) Dredging of River System in Bangladesh.

Dredging is being done in a two-kilometre stretch of the river at the triangular area of Bhuapur and Gopalpur upazilas in Tangail

and Char Sonamui and Char Bharua in Sarishabari upazila of Jamalpur to close a channel of the river and divert the water flow through the main channel, WDB sources said.

The two-kilometre-long embankment is meant for checking the water flow on the east side. Besides, a canal is being dug to divert the water flow through the main channel in the west.

Meanwhile, people of char (landmass emerged from river areas) villages in the middle of the river in Gabsara and Aurjuna unions of Bhuapur upazila are fearing that erosion will

increase at that side due to the dredging.

The villages will face serious erosion due to controlling the flow through dredging and passing the water through the west channel, said Mohammad Jinnah, chairman of Gabsara union.

"We the char people are not against dredging the river but it should be done from Bangabandhu Bridge to Tarakandi in Sarishabari for overall benefit of the area," he added.

However, the officials of Abul Momen Limited, the contractor firm responsible for the dredging, said 40

percent of the total fund is kept to face the possible challenges during the project and so, if any problem arises due to the dredging, it will be solved instantly.

When contacted, Riazul Hasan, executive engineer of WDB in Tangail, said "We are implementing the capital (pilot) dredging project in Jamuna River mainly to streamline the river system. The dredging causes no harm to the char villages. It can only hit some empty chars with loose soil that have recently emerged in the middle of the river."



PHOTO: STAR

Water Development Board (WDB) has started implementing a Tk 39 crore Jamuna dredging project to save Bhuapur and Gopalpur upazilas of Tangail that has been witnessing a severe erosion for the last several years.

3 held for acid attack on Anjana in C'nawabganj

The victim is still being treated at hospital

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
C'nawabganj

Police arrested three people including a woman from Pialimari village under Shibganj upazila early yesterday in connection with throwing acid on Anjana Karmakar.

The arrestees are identified as, Dilip Karmakar, 47, his wife Purnima Karmakar, 40, and Dilip's brother Prosonno Karmakar, 45, of the village.

Police said, on information, a team raided Dilip's house and arrested the three at around 3:45 am.

Earlier, Anjana Karmakar, 35, daughter of Bibbhubtihusan Karmakar of Mushribhuja village under Bholahat upazila in district sustained serious burn injuries as criminals threw acid on her at

Follow-up

Alinagar in the town Sunday morning.

Police said, Anjana came to Chapainawabganj from Bholahat by a passenger bus. She got down from the bus at Alinagar rail crossing point in front of Alinagar High School at 9:00am.

When she was going to District and Sessions Judge Court to attend a case, a gang waylaid her and threw acid on her face. Local people rushed her to Chapainawabganj Sadar Hospital.

She is now under treatment at the hospital with serious burn injuries.

Police said, Anjana had filed a case with District and Sessions Judge Court

against Prem Kumar Karmakar, son of Panu Karmakar of Chouka village, Ujjal Karmakar, son of Bhanjan Karmakar of Binodpur village and Dilip Karmakar, son of Udsan Karmakar of Jagannathpur-Pialimari of Shibganj upazila in the district in 2010 under Women and Children Repression Prevention Act.

The three accused allegedly abducted Anjana and violated her at Shibganj in 2010.

Anjana's brother Laxman Karmakar alleged that, being infuriated, Prem Kumar, Ujjal and Dilip threw acid on Anjana.

Anjana filed a case against Dilip and six others with Chapainawabganj Sadar police station on Sunday.

Man allegedly kills wife, son

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
C'nawabganj

A woman and her son were killed allegedly by the husband at Uttar Jodubati village of Patnitola upazila in Naogaon district yesterday.

The deceased are Julekha Begum, 35, and her son Mehedi Hasan, 12, of the village.

Shafiqul Islam, officer-in-charge (OC) of Potnitola police station and locals said, rickshawpuller Johirul Islam married Julekha around 14 years ago.

Johirul wedded another woman last year, triggering quarrel with Julekha on and often.

The OC said, Johirul who used to torture Julekha, killed her and their only son early yesterday and threw their bodies in a pond near their house.

Neighbours saw the bodies floating in the pond at about 6:00am and informed police.

Soon after the killing, Johirul went into hiding, police said.

DISPUTED SYLHET-MEGHALAYA BORDERS

Joint survey to resume today after months of suspension

STAFF CORRESPONDENT,
Sylhet

Joint survey of the Sylhet-Meghalaya borders will resume today after several months of suspension.

The survey would be done by two teams on 13 points along the borders, according to officials concerned.

The decision to resume the work was finalised at a two-day meeting held with Indian officials on Dauki-Tamabil border on 12 May last.

Prior to that meeting, officials of the directorate of survey and land administration visited different places of Sylhet-Meghalaya borders, where the joint survey had to be suspended months ago.

The team members

included director of the department of survey Md Iqbal, deputy director Nilmoni Sinha, ADC (Revenue-Sylhet) Ahmed Shamim Al Razi and deputy commander of the 5 battalion of BGB, Sylhet Major Naim.

The Indian team included director, external relations division, boundary Girish Kumar, deputy secretary of the Bangladesh desk, external relations division Sunita Pant and additional director, department of survey, Meghalaya TS Sangma.

Co-ordinator of the regional survey team Shamim Al Razi told the Daily Star yesterday that this time it would be resumed on the troubled areas along

Sripur, Dibir Haor, Jaintapur and Protappur (Padua) borders in Jaintapur and

Gowainghat upazilas.

He expected end to the stalemate that has been prevailing for months as Bangladesh officials could not agree with the Indians over survey points on the adversely possessed lands (APL) on different borders in the region.

The work had to be suspended in December, last year as the Indians were pressing to start survey from other points ignoring the existing border pillars, set in 1947.

In December, a trouble was also created by the Indian Khasia tribesmen and others on the much talked about Padua-Protappur borders.

Again it stumbled on 5 April as the Indians failed to bring any substantial documents in support of their

claim for lands inside the Bangladesh territory.

In the wake of repeated incidents of intrusion by Indian Khasias for paddy crops and fishing as well as killing of Bangladesh nationals by the BSF, the authorities decided for joint survey of the Jaintapur, Gowainghat and Kanaighat borders. Accordingly, it began on 7 December last year.

But it had to be suspended after the 14 December incident, when about 500 armed Indians, allegedly backed by the BSF intruded into the Bangladesh territory and occupied some lands on Padua border.

However, they retreated in the face of chase by thousands of villagers after some time.

মঙ্গলবার

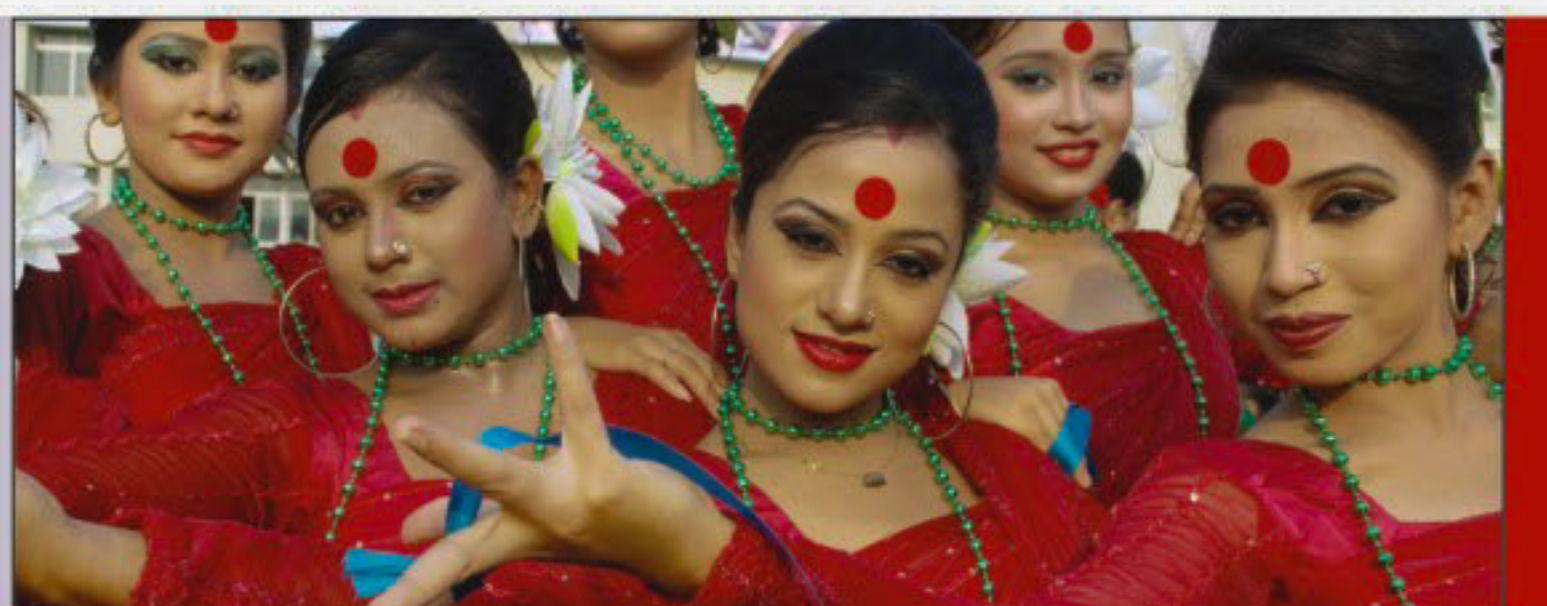
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মূল্য ৮ টাকা

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পৃষ্ঠা ২



ওবামা
নার্তাস
ছিলেন

পৃষ্ঠা ৭



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