

Shitalakkhya losing foreshores

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mentioned the letter.
BIWTA officials said the boundary pillars will go far into the existing waterway of the Shitalakkhya. They feared this move would make way for permanent private ownership of the foreshore and invite the encroachers to the vacant land.
In the latest land record-based survey of the river in 2001, Narayanganj district administration had narrowed the river from what it is in the foreshore maps prepared jointly with BIWTA as per Cadastral Survey (CS) records.
The survey identified a total of 3,010 structures along the Shitalakkhya as per CS record compared to only 302 according to RS record.
The High Court in June 2009 came up with a judgment and directions about demarcation of rivers with pillars, building walkways and plantation of trees.
The court ordered the

deputy commissioners of Dhaka, Narayanganj, Gazipur and Munshiganj to demarcate the Buriganga, Shitalakkhya, Turag, Balu and Dhaleswari rivers as per CS and RS records and retain the eroded and reformed land as part of rivers.
The judgement defined foreshore in light of The Port Rules, 1966. It said foreshore is the soil lying between low-water mark of dry season (spring) and high-water mark of monsoon during normal tides.
A river primarily includes bed, foreshores and banks, clarified the judgement.
The district administration, however, in its survey did not consider foreshores as part of rivers.
The port rules are outdated and the present reality is quite different with many changes over the years, noted M Shamsur Rahman, DC of Narayanganj.
"Let us do the job first. We will put it right if any flaw is

identified later on," he added.
Reclaiming eroded and reformed land is a difficult task and takes a long process, as there is private ownership in such land, pointed out the DC.
The district authorities have already completed 85 percent work of installing 10,000 pillars along 126 kilometre (both banks) stretch of the Shitalakkhya under a Tk10 crore project. They expect to complete the work by this month.
Shamsur earlier said they carried out the river survey only on the basis of RS record and did not take foreshores into consideration.
The district administration has to comply with the HC judgment, Syeda Rizwana Hasan, chief executive of Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association (BELA), told The Daily Star.
Foreshore is integral to the basic understanding of a

river, she insisted.
If the DC goes on with installing boundary pillars excluding foreshores, it implies they have a special agenda behind it, noted Rizwana.
She also observed this move is neither consistent with legal mandate nor will play a role in river conservation.
In many instances foreshore land has been recorded in the names of private individuals and it is very difficult to reclaim those as part of rivers, sources at a meeting at the shipping ministry on April 26 said quoting DCs concerned.
As per a gazette notification, length of the Shitalakkhya under Narayanganj river port stretched between Syedpur mouja to the south and Shimrail to the north. It was extended up to Gopchar mouja of Dhaleswari and Murapara under Rugganj to the north.

Where degree doesn't matter

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1982. While continuing as a full-timer, he obtained a regular graduation degree (third class) in 1985 although service rules permit full-timers taking private degrees only.
However, rules mattered little for Aliuzzaman, and he was promoted to SA-I in 1988. Four years later, he got promoted to sub-assistant engineer despite service rules do not allow promotion to the post without a first class in diploma engineering.
He has no diploma degree, let alone a first class.
Between 1999 and 2005, he became an assistant engineer and a senior engineer. More was to follow: on May 26 this year, he was promoted to the post of principal engineer (equivalent to the rank of an associate professor) of BAEC.
Established in 1973, the BAEC works to develop nuclear technology for

peaceful applications in the fields of food, agriculture, health, industry and environment. Its vision is to promote nuclear science and technology for peaceful uses of atomic energy for overall socio-economic development.
Aliuzzaman admitted to The Daily Star that he has no engineering or diploma degree.
"I've done AMIE [Associate Member of Institution of Engineers] from the Institute of Engineers Bangladesh. It's equivalent to BSc degree," he said.
But his is not an isolated case. At present, several top posts including those of some chief engineers and principal engineers are held by incompetent people, some of them promoted with Aliuzzaman in May, commission sources said.
Against this backdrop, frustration is mounting among the young scientists at the commission. Experts

say this may result in a poor performance of researchers at a time when the government is giving top priority to nuclear power projects to be implemented and maintained by BAEC engineers and scientists.
"Such serious irregularities in promotion will trigger frustration among qualified professionals," said a senior official of the commission requesting anonymity.
The official added that there are several officers who have doctorate degrees in nuclear science and engineering but they were not duly promoted.
Thanks to such practice, at least 10 brilliant officials left the organisation -- seven of them settled abroad -- in the last five years.
Early this month, a number of aggrieved officials have gone to the High Court seeking redress against non-promotion of competent officers.
BAEC Chairman

Muzammel Haque defended Aliuzzaman's case terming it a rarity.
"You won't always get things as you expect," he said.
He said 42 officers were promoted last month based on the recommendation by an evaluation committee.
Prof Naiyuum Choudhury, former chairman of the commission, said merit should come first in an organisation like BAEC.
Naiyuum, who served the commission for more than 30 years, said during his time 60 percent consideration was given to merit and the rest to experience for promotion. He does not know what is followed now.
"But there is no alternative to recognising merit," he said, citing the example of Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (BCSIR) that has failed to deliver quality, as it did not value merit in running the institution.

Long wait for compensation

FROM PAGE 1
said Sharif sitting in the family's rickety shack in Asharampur village, about 80 kilometres northeast of the capital. "Suddenly, Rajib leaned out the window and told me that another train was heading towards us from the opposite direction."
The next thing Sharif

could recall was a bang. When he came to senses, he was lying at National Institute of Traumatology and Orthopaedic Rehabilitation (Nitor) with both his legs amputated.
The accident claimed 21 lives, including that of his friend Rajib, and injured more than 100 people.
Since then the entire

family has been thrown into despair. Six months on, the Bangladesh Railway (BR) has not compensated a single victim of the fatal accident although an enquiry committee concluded that the collision happened due to drivers' fault.
"We've become so poor buying medicine and trying to save our son that we now struggle to buy enough rice for the family," his father Awal said.
Interestingly, nearly four months after the accident, Sharif received a letter from Abul Kashem, assistant chief commercial manager of BR in Chittagong, asking him to appear before a medical board on April 26.
The letter dated April 18

ironically brought further misery to the family.
"To take our crippled son to Chittagong I needed one more person to accompany us, and we were in no position to pay for the fares and other expenses of the trip."
The father went to the local bazaar and begged for help. He collected Tk 2,400 from several people and went to Chittagong on April 25 taking with them another person to help on the way.
The following day, they arrived at the BR office around 10:30am and waited for over two hours before Sharif was examined by three "men".
"After the checkup was complete at about 3:00pm they told us to go home.

And we haven't heard anything from anybody ever since," tells Awal.
Abul Kashem, the BR official, told The Daily Star that every victim must undergo a medical examination by a BR-appointed medical team for compensation.
He said that the victims would be compensated as per the Railway Act of 1890 which allows Tk 10,000 for an A-category victim.
If someone dies or loses a limb or becomes paralysed, he falls under category-A, said Kashem terming the amount ridiculous. "Nobody has ever tried to amend this 120-year-old law and make it up-to-date."
He added that there are cases where the government announced reasonable compensation for the victims following accidents, but nothing like that happened in case of the tragedy in Narsingdi.
As for Sharif, "He will qualify for Tk 10,000," Kashem said.

EC doesn't want

FROM PAGE 1
chief election commissioner (CEC).
"I think three commissioners are enough to run the commission properly. If the number is raised, it'll create disagreements among the commissioners," CEC ATM Shamsul Huda said yesterday.
He was talking to reporters after a dialogue with National People's Party (NPP) at the commission secretariat as part of the EC's ongoing dialogue with the registered political parties.
The CEC added that the commission will again place its proposal for limiting the number to three in the Chief Election Commissioner and Election Commissioner (Appointment Procedure) Act, 2011. The draft of the act is complete and the commission is now scrutinising it.
On spending crores of taka in election, Huda said it is difficult to prove anomalies in poll expenditures, as the costs are often invisible.
An 11-member team of NPP led by its Chairman Sheikh Shawkat Hossain Nilu attended the talks at 3:00pm.

Earlier in the morning, a 12-member delegation of Bangladesh Muslim League led by its President Nurul Haque Mojumder joined the dialogue.
Both the parties recommended introduction of electronic voting machine (EVM) in phases in different local government elections before the parliamentary election.
They also suggested that the EC not increase candidate's deposit money of Tk 10,000 and poll expenditure of Tk 15 lakh per candidate. The EC proposes to increase the deposit money to Tk 30,000 and the poll expenditures to Tk 25 lakh.
The commission on June 7 launched the dialogue with the registered political parties for their opinion on some key provisions of the Representation of the People Order, laws on demarcation of constituencies, appointment of election commissioners, and use of electronic voting machine.
BNP and its key ally Jamaat-e-Islami did not join the talks.

5.6-magnitude Earthquake hits Indonesia's Sumatra

AFP, Jakarta
A moderate 5.6-magnitude earthquake hit off Indonesia's Sumatra island yesterday, the local geophysics agency said, but there were no initial reports of damage or casualties.
The quake struck at a depth of 30 kilometres around 175 kilometres southwest of the city of Bengkulu at 11:19am.
"So far we haven't received any information if there is an impact or damages from the quake. The quake is located quite far from Bengkulu," National Quake Centre official Bayu Pranata said.
Indonesia sits on the Pacific "Ring of Fire", where the meeting of continental plates causes high seismic activity, and Sumatra is particularly prone to earthquakes.

বাংলাদেশ চিনি ও খাদ্য শিল্প করপোরেশন
চিনি শিল্প ভবন, ৩, দিলকুশা বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা, ঢাকা-১০০০
সূত্র নম্বর বিএসএফআইসি/পিডি-২/কম্পিউটার/২০১০-১১ তারিখঃ ২৬/৬/২০১১

কম্পিউটার সংগ্রহে পুনঃ উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

টেভার ডকুমেন্টে উল্লিখিত শর্তে বাংলাদেশ চিনি ও খাদ্য শিল্প করপোরেশনে ডেলিভারী ভিত্তিতে প্রকৃত আমদানিকারক/অভিজ্ঞতাসম্পন্ন সরবরাহকারীদের নিকট হতে ৬ (ছয়)টি ল্যাপটপ (লাইসেন্সপূর্ণ Original Software) ক্রয়ের লক্ষ্যে সীলমোহরযুক্ত দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছেঃ

- ১। দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের স্থান : ব্যবস্থাপক (ক্যাশ), চিনি শিল্প ভবন, ৮ম তলা, ৩, দিলকুশা বা/এলাকা, ঢাকা-১০০০।
- ২। দরপত্র গ্রহণ ও খোলার দপ্তরের নাম ও ঠিকানা : সচিব শাখা, চিনি শিল্প ভবন, ৬ষ্ঠ তলা, ৩, দিলকুশা বা/এলাকা, ঢাকা-১০০০।
- ৩। দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ ও সময় : ১০-০৭-২০১১ তারিখ অফিস চলাকালীন সময় পর্যন্ত।
- ৪। দরপত্র দাখিলের শেষ তারিখ ও সময় : ১১-০৭-২০১১ তারিখ সকাল ১১.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
- ৫। দরপত্র খোলার শেষ তারিখ ও সময় : ১১-০৭-২০১১ তারিখ সকাল ১১.১০ ঘটিকায়।
- ৬। প্রতি সেট : ৪০০ (চারশত) টাকা (অফেরতযোগ্য)।
- ৭। দরপত্র জামানতের পরিমাণ : ১০,০০০ (দশ হাজার) টাকা (ফেরতযোগ্য)।
- ৮। মালামাল সরবরাহের সময় : টেভার ডকুমেন্টে উল্লিখিত সময় অনুযায়ী।

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