



PHOTO: STAR

This dike constructed by a local farmer in a bid to 'recover' his paternal land from the riverbed impedes the flow of Gopla River at Rajar Bathan in Srimongal upazila under Moulvibazar district.

River dried up to 'recover' parental land!

RAJAT KANTI GOSWAMI,
Moulvibazar

Surprising though, a local farmer has dried up a portion of the Gopla River near Hail Haor in Srimongal upazila under the district to 'recover' his paternal land that had gone into the riverbed 16 years ago.

Belal Ahmed, son of Abdul Kadir of Motiganj village in Srimongal upazila, constructed two dykes on the river at a small distance and pumped out water from the portion a few days ago.

The act will cause flooding in the villages in the upstream and scarcity of water in the downstream, locals said.

They have demanded

immediate steps to remove the embankments for keeping the river flow normal.

The Bilash Chhara River originating from the Tripura hill in India entered Bangladesh through Sindurkhan union under Srimongal upazila in Moulvibazar district and after crossing Motiganj in Srimongal upazila, it flows through the Hail Haor as Gopla River.

About 16 years ago, the Gopla River changed its course and devoured large areas of crop lands, locals said, adding that farmer Abdul Kadir was one of the losers due to the change in river course.

To 'recover' the land from the bed of Gopla River in

'Rajar Bathan' area, Kadir's son Belal Ahmed has constructed two embankments in the Gopla River.

During a visit to the spot on March 13, this correspondent saw that water from the area between the embankments was pumped out and two dredgers were working to level the dry river bed.

"Construction of embankments was completed 20 to 25 days ago. Belal Ahmed of Motiganj village rented this machine" said Mizanur Rahman, the dredger operator.

The upper portion of the river at the place was seen full of water.

When Contacted, Belal Ahmed told this correspondent, "Several years ago, the

original river changed its course and devoured three acres of my paternal land. Now I am recovering my land from the river. I am not doing anything illegal."

"Although it is my own land I put three ring culverts and constructed a separate drain for continuation of the river flow," he said.

Md Nazir Ahmed, superintendent engineer of Water Development Board Moulvibazar Circle office said, "No one has right to block the flow of any river. Such an act is treated illegal even if the land is one's own. I will take action in coordination with the administration."

"When a river flows over any personal land, the owner loses his ownership. This is the law. I have ordered the upazila nirbahi officer of Srimongal to take action," Moulvibazar Deputy Commissioner Md Mostafizur Rahman said.

Syed Rafiqul Islam, assistant land officer of Srimongal, said, "Following order from the UNO of Srimongal I conducted an enquiry and found the allegation against Belal Ahmed true. I have submitted enquiry report to the assistant commissioner (Land) of Srimongal."

Srimongal UNO Md Ashfaque Haque Chowdhury said on Saturday that the embankments would be removed within a day or two.

However, the action was taken as of yesterday.



PHOTO: STAR

The perpetrator engages a dredger to level the riverbed that was dried up by him to prepare it as a farmland.

The Daily Star - রবি ENGLISH FAIR



Hundreds more kids from 4 schools join joyful interactions

STAR NATIONAL DESK

English language fairs under English in Schools programme, an initiative of The Daily Star and mobile operator Robi, were held at four schools in Tangail, Pabna and Bagerhat districts yesterday.

Adcomm Ltd is the creative and event partner of the fairs.

Around 500 students took part in the joyful interactions during daylong English language fair held at the auditorium of Syed Abdul Jabbar Government High School in Delduar upazila under Tangail district yesterday, reports our correspondent.

Niranjan Mondol, headmaster of the school, inaugurated the fair as chief guest.

Following screening of Lion King, a globally renowned movie, the students of the school participated in spot quiz, vocabulary test, one-word question and quick questions -- all based on the movie.

Selected students also took part in extempore speech on different topics and role-play.

Later, the chief guest distributed prizes among the winners of different completions.

The students of the school also formed an English language club.

Our Pabna Correspondent reports: Students of Central Girls' High School and Town Girls' High School in the district headquarters took part in the English language fairs held at the institutions yesterday.

Around 250 students, their teachers and family members were present during the fairs.

Students participated in joyful interactions and entertained the audience by reciting



PHOTO: STAR

Two students of Syed Abdul Jabbar Government High School in Delduar upazila under Tangail district take part in a 'role play', below, prize winners of different events pose with their teachers at Town Girls' High School in Pabna during the English language fairs held at the institutions yesterday.

poems, telling jokes and singing songs.

Globally renowned movie The Lion King was screened, followed by quizzes on vocabulary, extempore speeches, etiquette test and role play.

Our Bagerhat Correspondent adds: An English language fair was held at PU Model High School in Rampal upazila

under the district yesterday morning.

The events included screening of The Lion King, onward question-answer session, situation-based questioning, role play, extempore speech etc. Later prizes were distributed among the winners.

To promote English language learning among school students

across the country, The Daily Star in cooperation with Robi undertook English in Schools programme in 2009.

Under the initiative, each of 1000 schools selected from 64 districts of the country receives three complimentary copies of The Daily Star five days a week.

আকর্ষণীয় মুনাফা জাতীয় সঞ্চয় প্রকল্পসমূহ

- ০১। পরিবার সঞ্চয়পত্র (৫-বছর মেয়াদী); মুনাফার হারঃ ১৩.৪৫%।
এক লক্ষ টাকায় প্রতি মাসে নীট মুনাফা ১,০৭০ (এক হাজার সত্তর) টাকা।
- ০২। পেনশনার সঞ্চয়পত্র (৫-বছর মেয়াদী); মুনাফার হারঃ ১৩.১৯%।
এক লক্ষ টাকায় প্রতি তিন মাসে নীট মুনাফা ৩,১৪৫ (তিন হাজার একশত পঁয়তাল্লিশ) টাকা।
- ০৩। ৫-বছর মেয়াদী বাংলাদেশ সঞ্চয়পত্র; মুনাফার হারঃ ১৩.১৯%।
এক লক্ষ টাকায় মেয়াদান্তে (৫-বছর) নীট মুনাফা ৬২,৯০০ (ষাটটি হাজার নয়শত) টাকা।
- ০৪। ৩-মাস অন্তর মুনাফাভিত্তিক সঞ্চয়পত্র (৩-বছর মেয়াদী); মুনাফার হারঃ ১২.৫৯%।
এক লক্ষ টাকায় প্রতি তিন মাসে নীট মুনাফা ৩,০০০ (তিন হাজার) টাকা।
- ০৫। ডাকঘর সঞ্চয় ব্যাংক মেয়াদী হিসাব (৩ বছর মেয়াদী); মুনাফার হারঃ ১৩.২৪%।
এক লক্ষ টাকায় মেয়াদান্তে (৩-বছর) নীট মুনাফা ৩৬,০০০ (ছত্রিশ হাজার) টাকা।



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BCL leader stabbed to death in Noakhali

STAR NATIONAL DESK

A Chhatra League (BCL) leader was stabbed to death while a Swechhasebok League leader was severely stabbed in Noakhali on Monday.

BCL leader Morshed Alam Sumon, 20, president of Noakhola union unit of the student body, was stabbed to death near Barihati Bazar in Chatkhil upazila.

Police arrested five people in connection with the killing, reports UNB.

Victim's friend Sohel alleged that a gang led by Chhatra Dal activist Javed swooped on Sumon at about 10:30pm while he was returning home from Barihati Bazar.

They hacked him indiscriminately with sharp weapons, leaving him critically injured.

Sumon was rushed to Chatkhil upazila health complex. He died while being taken to Noakhali General Hospital.

Police arrested Javed, his father Khorshed Alam, uncle Amjad Hossain, Babu and

Rasel in this connection.

Police said Javed later confessed to killing Sumon.

In the other incident, BCL activists beat up and stabbed a Swechhasebok League leader in front of Noakhali Central Jail at Shantinagar in Sadar Upazila, reports our correspondent.

Injured Kala Hazari, 28, president of Shantinagar SL committee, was admitted to Noakhali Medical College Hospital in critical condition. Mohiuddin, brother of Kala Hazari and Sudharam police said, Rahat Ahmed, a BCL activist was freed from jail on the day. But police arrested him again in another case.

After two hours police released Rahat from their custody.

Later around 5pm, a group of BCL activists, led by Rahat, attacked SL leader Kala Hazari.

They severely beat up and stabbed Kala Hazari leaving him unconscious on the spot.

Mohiuddin filed a case accusing 8-10 people.

অভিনন্দন

মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রী শেখ হাসিনার বলিষ্ঠ পদক্ষেপে
মিয়ানমারের সঙ্গে সমুদ্রসীমা মামলায়
বাংলাদেশের ঐতিহাসিক জয়ে



বঙ্গবন্ধু কন্যা মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রী জননেত্রী শেখ হাসিনাকে বাংলাদেশ
কৃষি গবেষণা ইনস্টিটিউটের সকল বিজ্ঞানী, কর্মকর্তা, কর্মচারী
ও শ্রমিকগণের পক্ষ থেকে প্রাণঢালা অভিনন্দন।

বাংলাদেশ কৃষি গবেষণা ইনস্টিটিউট, জয়দেবপুর, গাজীপুর-১৭০১