



PHOTO: STAR  
About 100 metres of Chondimari dyke has been damaged again by Teesta River in the last four days, posing a threat to thousands of villagers of Mohishkhocha union in Aditmari upazila of Lalmonirhat.

## Just repaired Chondimari dyke partially collapses

### Thousands of families under threat

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Chondimari dyke, repaired only two months ago, has partially collapsed due to turbulence of Teesta River in Mohishkhocha union of Aditmari upazila.

Tk one crore and 65 lakh was spent for the repair of the dyke but it washed away due to use of low quality cement concrete CC blocks, locals alleged.

About 100 metres of the 1340-meter-long dyke collapsed in the last four days since Monday, they said.

Lalmonirhat Water Development Board had trying to halt the erosion by dumping sand bags in the water till filing of this report yesterday.

A WDB official said that the repair of the dyke was completed only two months ago. The construction firm handed over the dyke to WDB in May this year.

Shamsul Islam, 60, of Chondimari village

said that the construction firm did not use CC blocks as per agreement for repairing the dam and that is why it cannot stand the pressure of Teesta water.

Mohir Uddin, 55, another villager, made the same allegation.

Sohidar Rahman, a local schoolteacher said, Chondimari dyke was built to save 10 thousand families of Mohishkhocha union in Aditmari upazila from the Teesta River. If it collapses, the whole union will face flood and erosion.

Refuting the allegation of using low quality materials in repairing the dyke, a WDB official said that the construction firm handed over the work after doing 'hundred present work.'

"WDB officials are in high alert to save the dyke by any means as it protects scores of families, homesteads, croplands, orchards and many important establishments of a union," he said.

## CHT PEACE AGREEMENT

# Full implementation must for lasting peace: Larma

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

Chittagong Hill Tracts Regional Council (CHTRC) Chairman Jyotirindra Bodhipriya Larma alias Santu Larma has said that full implementation of the CHT peace accord is a must for resolution of land dispute and establishing lasting peace in hills.

He was speaking at a regional workshop on 'Law Concerning the Land of Indigenous People, Their Tradition and Custom' in the conference room of District Sports Association in the district town on Wednesday.

Although the responsibility of The CHT Land Dispute Resolution Commission is to resolve the longstanding land dispute in hills, its chief is working against the interest of jumma people, Larma alleged.

He demanded that the government take immediate steps for amendment to the CHT Land Dispute Resolution Committee Act for better functioning of the commission.

Larma, also the chief of Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity (PCJSS), further said democratic

process must be followed in selection of headmen.

Organised by CHT Regional Council in association with Manusher Jonno



Santu Larma

Foundation (MJF), representatives of Chakma, Bomang and Moung circles, headmen, NGOs representatives and women leaders joined the workshop.

The participants said the land of jumma people are being grabbed by the outsiders. They called to build up resistance against the grabbers and stressed the need for formation of land management committee at village level, led by local leaders including headmen and Karbaries.

In Khagrachhari, leaders of Democratic Youth Forum (DYF), Pahari Chhatra Parishad (PCP) and Hill Women's Federation (HWF) yesterday urged the government not to reappoint retired Justice Khademul Islam Chowdhury as the chairman of the land dispute resolution body.

At a protest rally in Shanirbar Bazaar area in the district town, they said that Khademul had already become a disputed person in the CHT due to his 'controversial activities', reports our correspondent.

The speakers said that reappointment of Khademul will only 'complicate the situation in CHT further'. They also demanded the amendment to CHT Land Commission Act and reorganisation of the traditional land law of the hill people. They threatened to go for tougher movements if the government did not accept their demands.

Earlier, the leaders and activists of DYF, PCP and HWF, backed by anti-peace accord United Peoples Democratic Front, brought out a protest procession in the town.



PHOTO: STAR  
Boats ferry people of 20 villages for tolls as the defeated Uria UP chairman candidate in Fulchhari upazila of Gaibandha dismantled the wooden bridge (right: file photo) over a canal after the election.



## Because of his defeat in UP election

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

A defeated union parishad (UP) chairman candidate dismantled a wooden bridge over a canal in Uria union connecting 20 Fulchhari upazila villages a few weeks ago.

People of the villages are now forced to cross the canal by boats owned by Mojibur Rahman, the defeated chairman aspirant of Uria union.

For crossing the canal, the villagers have to pay tolls as demanded by the men of Mojibur, alleged locals.

Thousands had been suffering for want of a bridge over the canal at Katadara in the union for long, they said.

After repeated request by locals, the authorities constructed a 120 feet-long wooden bridge under LGSP project in 2010.

During the last union parishad election, Mojibur repaired the bridge at his own cost as its large portion was damaged by surging water of the canal during the rains, said villagers.

Following his defeat, Mojibur, an influential person in the area, had said that he could not win the election as the villagers did not cast vote in his favour.

Later, his supporters dismantled the bridge in the last week of May.

Contacted, Mojibur said the bridge was removed from the place as it needed further repair.

Strict action would be taken against those responsible for dismantling the bridge after investigating the matter, said Abdul Hamid Sarker, incumbent chairman of the union.

"Nobody has the right to destroy any public property", he said.

## Three held with bombs

UNB, Benapole, Jessore

Police arrested three alleged criminals along with hand bombs in Barandipara area of the district town last night.

The arrestees were identified as Sumon, 18, son of Abu Morshed Kamal and Rony Mahmud, 20, son of Swapna Mahmud of Barandipara area and Jalal Uddin, 19, son of Abdur Rashid of Bejpara TB Clinic area of the town.

Police said since last few days

the criminals were demanding Tk 5 lakh as tolls from Zakir Hossain, owner of an under-construction building of the area.

Later, Zakir filed a case with Sadar police station. Police said on secret information they arrested them along with three bombs when they came to Zakir's house for collecting the money.

## SNAPS AND SNIPPETS



PHOTO: STAR  
Goods-laden trucks remain stuck at Baloyaghata on the Chapainawabganj-Rajshahi highway as they cannot enter Chapainawabganj town due a transport strike in the district that continued for the fourth day yesterday.

## HSC examinee commits 'suicide'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

A girl allegedly committed suicide yesterday for failing in this year's HSC examination. The deceased was identified as Swapna Khatun, 20, a student of Salimpur College and daughter of Hashem Ali of Diar Shahpur village in the upazila. Family sources said, Swapna went to her college in the morning and returned home distressed after knowing that she did not come out successful. She could not bear the shock of failing in the examination and committed suicide by hanging herself from the ceiling of her room.

## Students held with arms

CORRESPONDENT, Jamalpur

Police arrested two college students with a foreign made pistol and three bullets in Choraghat area under Sadar upazila on Wednesday night. The arrestees are Sakhawat Ullah Limon, 18, son of Faruk Hossain of village Joyda under Muktagachha upazila and Mahmudul Hassan Sohag, 19, son of Daraj Uddin of Lakkikhula area under Muktagachha municipality of Mymensingh district. Idris Hossain, sub-inspector of Sadar PS, said a patrol team of police arrested the duo along with the arms and bullets while they were crossing a check-post by a motorbike at around 11:00pm. Earlier, the team set up the checkpost on Jamalpur-Mymensingh road in the area, the SI added.

## Man jailed in arms case

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narail

A court in Jessore yesterday sentenced a man to 46 years imprisonment in an arms case. The convict was identified as Sujon Hossain, 24, son of Sohorab Hossain of Mankia village in Sharsha upazila of the district. According to the prosecution, a Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) team held Sujon along with 10 shutter guns and 26 bullets from his fish farm in Raipura area of Sharsha upazila on 19 May, 2011.

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United Nations Volunteers programme in Bangladesh announces vacancy for the post of "ICT Specialist for Networking Academy" based in Dhaka under the National UN Volunteer modality.

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You may send hard copy of applications to UNV programme, C/O UNDP, IDB Bhaban 14th floor, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Agargaon, Dhaka.

Last day of Applications: 4.30 pm on 2nd August, 2012 (Thursday)

Qualified female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply. Only Short-listed candidates will be contacted.

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United Nations Development Programme in Bangladesh announces a vacancy for the position (One position) of **Urban Risk Reduction Specialist (Service Contract, SB-4 Level)** with **"Comprehensive Disaster Management Programme (CDMP), Phase-II"** project.

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