



PHOTO: STAR

The abandoned century-old building where a room was being used as the dining hall of a hostel of Barisal BM College. Inset, a portion of the roof of the dining hall collapsed yesterday. However, none was injured.

## Students' lives put at risk

Roof of Barisal BM College hostel's dining room at a century-old building collapses

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

A portion of the roof of the dining-cum-TV room of the century-old Surendra Chhatrabas (hostel) of Barisal Government Brojo Mohan (BM) College collapsed yesterday.

None was injured as the incident occurred at around 10:00am, said the resident students of the two-storey dormitory, which was declared abandoned by Barisal City Corporation and Public Works Department more than a decade ago.

The room of the dilapidated building was being used by around 50 students who are now residing at a

temporary tin-shed house built by the college authorities adjacent to the abandoned hostel.

Being informed, Principal Prof Nani Gopal Das visited the spot. He said they could not start construction of a new building by demolishing the abandoned one due to case filed by one Bablu Khan, claiming the ownership of the land. The case still remains pending with the court, he added.

The college authorities will soon start constructing a dining-cum-TV room for the resident students of Surendra Chhatrabas at a place adjacent to the temporary hostel, the principal further said.

Brojo Mohan College, one of the oldest educational institutions in the country, was established in 1886. Around 23,000 students are now studying in honours and master's classes.

It has six dormitories--four for male and two for female--students. All the dorms are overcrowded. Campus sources said though more than 60 percent students attend their classes from outside the city, the number of students seeking seats at college hostels are on the rise.

The college needs more dormitories to provide accommodation for the growing number of applicants, the sources added.



PHOTO: STAR

Members of the visiting Danish parliamentary team talk to the people of disaster-prone Pashurbunia and Charipara villages under Kalapara upazila of Patuakhali yesterday. The team went there to make a report on how to reduce the risk of disaster in the area and will submit it to the Danish government to take necessary steps in this regard.

## DULAL MURDER IN NARSINGDI Case against 12, five arrestees remanded

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narsingdi

A case was filed against 12 people yesterday on charge of killing Awami League leader Dulal Bhandari on Sunday.

Luftar Rahman, younger brother of the slain AL leader filed the case with Shibpur Model police station in the afternoon.

Names of six among the 12 accused were mentioned in the complaint. They are-- Golam Hafiz Uddin, Mahfuz Mia, Adnan Salauddin, Abu Bakar Siddik, Obaidur Rahman and Md Mostafa. All of them hailed from Kararchar vil-

lage in the same upazila. Of them, police arrested four and a suspect, Nuru Miah, while Hafiz and Mahfuz remained at large.

The arrestees were remanded for seven days yesterday.

On Sunday around 10:30pm, a gang of 7 to 8 masked criminals waylaid Dulal, president of ward 8 AL under Putia union near Kararchar Moulvi Tofazzal Hossain Hospital field and hacked him with sharp machetes indiscriminately. Later, he succumbed to his injuries around 1:30am at Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

একটি সিদ্ধান্তই  
প্রতিমাসে বাড়তি আয়ের নিশ্চয়তা

সাইথইস্ট ব্যাংক-এর মাসিক মুনাফা প্রকল্পে ন্যূনতম ১ লক্ষ টাকা ১ বছরের জন্য জমা রেখে প্রতিমাসে আয় করুন ১,১১২ টাকা। বেছে নিন সঠিক আয়ের পথ আর নিশ্চিত করুন আপনার আজ ও আগামী।

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## UNPLANNED CANALS, BRIDGES

# Aman on 2,000 hectares damaged in Tangail

MIRZA SHAKIL, Tangail

Aman paddy on two-fifths of around five thousand hectares of land in Basail upazila under the district got damaged this year as irrigation was hampered due to construction of bridges and culverts and digging of canals in an unplanned way.

Amid the problem persisting for years, vast areas of croplands in 50 villages under Sadar, Habla and Kanchanpur unions under Basail upazila have turned into grazing fields where farmers often feed their planted paddy to cattle, said farmers and agriculture officials.

Authorities concerned are yet to take any practical measures to solve the problem, local farmers said, adding that six canals, dug at different places of the upazila spending Tk 2 crore during the last three and a half years, proved of too ineffective to save crops from water crisis.

The canals were dug in relatively high areas and so, they carry insufficient water, they added.

Visiting different villages in Basail Sadar union during the last couple of days, this correspondent saw paddy being fed to the cattle.

"This year aman paddy on my 10 bighas of land was damaged due to lack of water. Other farmers in the area also suffered similar situation as all the water

channels in the area got closed due to unplanned construction of bridges and culverts as well as dwelling houses. The situation has continued for years," said Golam Mostofa, a farmer of Andirapara village in Basail Sadar union.

Several farmers said in previous years they were able to preserve the seeds of aman but they could not do it this year.

Aman paddy was cultivated on 5,065 hectares

of land in the upazila this year, said sources at Basail upazila agriculture office.

Upazila Agriculture Officer Amir Hamza said, "In Kanchanpur, Habla and Sadar unions under the upazila, paddy on 1700 hectares of land was fully damaged and the crop on about 300 hectares of land partially damaged as there was lack of necessary rain this year. Most of the canals and water bodies in

the areas have been filled up. Construction of bridges, culverts as well as dwelling houses blocked openings of the water courses, creating crisis of irrigation water to cultivate crops, especially aman paddy in the areas."

Basail upazila parishad Chairman Kazi Olid Islam urged digging a three-kilometre-long canal and construction of a sluice gate to facilitate aman cultiva-



PHOTO: STAR

Vast tracts of aman cropland have turned into grazing fields in 50 villages of Basail upazila of Tangail, thanks to unplanned canals, bridges and culverts in the area.

## AL men injure 6 newsmen, snatch cameras in Lalmonirhat

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Attackers allegedly belonging to the ruling Awami League (AL) injured six journalists and snatched their cameras and ID cards when they went to collect news at Singimari Government Primary School in Hatibandha upazila under Lalmonirhat district yesterday afternoon.

Locals rescued the injured newsmen and admitted them to Singimari union health complex.

The victims are Lalmonirhat district correspondents Towhidul Islam of Boishakhi TV, Moazzem Hossain of Banglanews24.com, Asaduzzaman Shaju of the daily Manob Kantha, and Hatibandha upazila correspondents Mizanur Rahman Dulal of the daily Jugantor, Kazi Altaf Hossain of the daily Manob Zamin and the Karatoa, and Nurul Haque of the daily Sangram.

Following an allegation that head-

master of the school, Abdus Sobur, also a former AL leader, physically harassed a female assistant teacher of the same school, a few journalists from district and upazila headquarters went there at around 40:30pm to collect news, said Towhidul Islam.

"Without talking with us regarding the matter, the headmaster called some Awami League men over mobile. He also claimed himself as a close relative of Primary and Mass Education State Minister Motahar Hossain," said Asaduzzaman Shaju.

Within minutes, 20/25 AL men riding on about 12 motorbikes led by former president of Hatibandha upazila unit of AL Sarowar Hayat Khan, now adviser of the unit, and his aide MG Mostafa rushed to the spot and started beating the journalists, the victims said.

The AL men also snatched four cameras and five ID cards from the

newsmen. Lalmonirhat Superintendent of Police Habibur Rahman said the six assaulted journalists informed him of the matter and he has ordered the officer in charge (OC) of Hatibandha police station to take necessary steps.

A member of Hatibandha Upazila Press Club lodged a general diary regarding the matter with the police station, Hatibandha OC Tapos Kumar said, adding that the police have already started drive to arrest the attackers.

Contacted, AL leader Sarowar Hayat Khan claimed that he did not go to Singimari Government Primary School field during the whole day yesterday while the school headmaster Abdus Sobur declined to talk with the journalists, saying that the state minister will 'solve' the matter.

Sheikh Hasina Rachana Samagra 1, page 81

I got involved in politics loving the people of this country. Whether I visit cities or villages, people's miseries touch my heart deeply. When people are helpless to the nature, they are also helpless, neglected and repressed to the interest of various groups."

Bangladesh Awami Jubo League



একটি সিদ্ধান্তই প্রতিমাসে বাড়তি আয়ের নিশ্চয়তা

মাসিক মুনাফা  
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