

FLOOD SITUATION IN LALMONIRHAT, DINAJPUR WORSENS

# Fresh areas inundated

STAR COUNTRY DESK

With inundation of 130 more villages, flood situation in Lalmonirhat and Dinajpur districts worsened further yesterday.

In Lalmonirhat, Teesta and Dharla rivers swelled further yesterday due to onrush of waters from upstream, flooding 80 more villages under 16 unions of five upazilas. At least one lakh people have been marooned in the affected areas, reports our correspondent.

The Teesta River was flowing 26 centimetres above the danger mark at Dowani point in Hatibandha upazila while the Dharla was flowing 4 centimetres above the danger mark at Kalakhawa Ghat point in Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila in the morning.

The flood-hit people face crises of food and pure drinking water as the affected areas have gone under three to four feet of water.

Mosaddek Hossain Chowdhury, chairman of Mohishkhocha Union Parishad in Adirmari upazila, said Gobordhan, Balapara and Kutirpar villages in the Teesta River basin under the union are



A flooded area of Mazadanga village in Dinajpur Sadar upazila.

PHOTO: STAR

badly affected by the flood. He urged the local administration to provide relief and pure drinking water for flood-hit people.

Executive Engineer Enayet Ullah of the Water Development Board in Lalmonirhat said, the situation at 80 villages in the basins of Teesta and Dharla river worsened yesterday as water level of two rivers marked a sharp rise due to onrushing water from upstream.

Our Dinajpur correspondent adds: The flood situation in four upazilas of the district further deteriorated yesterday as water overflowing the banks of the rain-fed Punarbhaba, Atrai and Ichhamati rivers submerged 50 more villages.

WDB officials said the three rivers swelled further yesterday morning due to onrush of water from upstream.

Of the affected villages,

25 are in Bochaganj upazila, 10 each in Biral and Dinajpur Sadar upazila, and five in Chirirbandar upazila. The affected people have taken shelter on high land and educational institutions in the area.

Besides, the official of the Department of Agriculture Extension claimed that 9,000 more hectares of land in the affected areas have also been submerged.

JESSORE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

# Lone male dormitory closed for over a year

MOKAMMEL SHUVO, Jessore

The resident students of the lone male dormitory of Jessore Polytechnic Institute are facing various problems, as it has remained closed for over a year.

After the vandalism in the institute by Chhatra League activists, the institute was closed, and the dormitory, Martyr Principal Sultan Uddin Hall, which can accommodate 245 students, was declared vacant on May 14, 2012.

Although the institute was reopened after about 40 days of the closure, the dormitory is yet to be reopened.

Following the dormitory closure, the resident students have to reside in messes, but they feel insecure to live in messes as local criminals used to disturb them in various ways. It is hampering their educational activities. Besides, their educational expenses have increased largely for living in messes.

Shamsul Alam, principal of Jessore Polytechnic Institute, alleged that

Chhatra League activists of the institute unit along with outsiders had ransacked different rooms of the institute for not getting illegal facility in student admission to the institute.

A number of students said their monthly expenses had become almost double for living outside the dormitory.

It has also put impact on the expenses of the non-

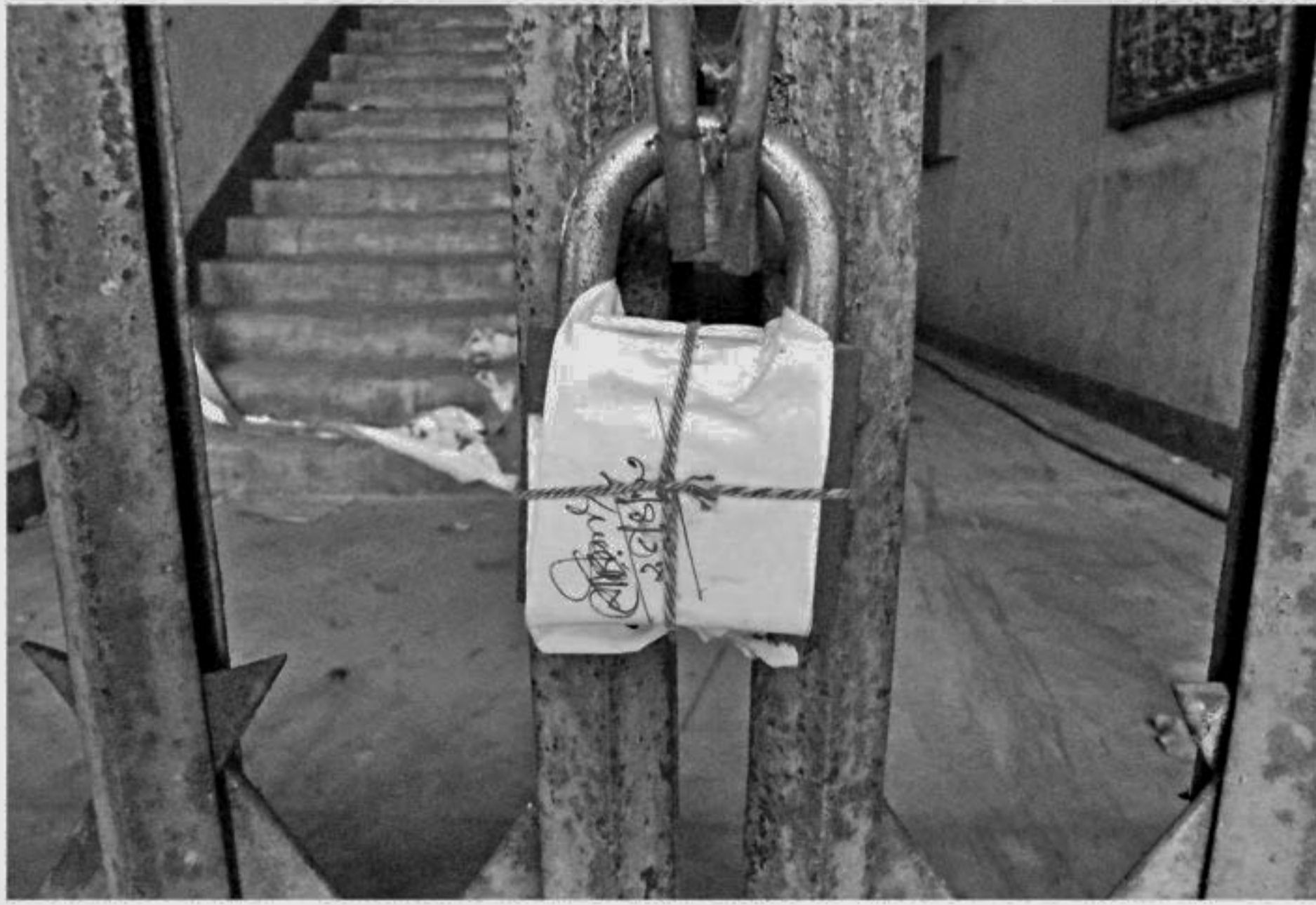
resident students as the house owners have increased their house rent, taking the advantage of remaining the dormitory closure.

Now, each student has to need Tk about 3,000 a month to maintain his monthly expenses, including mess rent and meal charges, they said, adding that it was Tk 1,300-1,500 before the dormitory clo-

sure. Shamsul said they did not reopen the dormitory as outsiders could use the hostel as their den.

Some students opposed his remark, saying no outsiders could enter the dormitory when it was open.

The polytechnic institute, situated in Sheikhhati area in the town, has about 2,500 students and seven departments.



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## Six get life for killing schoolgirl in Bagerhat

A CORRESPONDENT, Bagerhat

A court here yesterday sentenced six people to life term imprisonment in the case for killing schoolgirl Tina in Morrelganj upazila under the district in 2004.

The convicts are Laltu Hawlader, his brother Obaidul Hawlader, Russel Hawlader and Mamun Hawlader of Khalkulia village and Razzak Hawlader of Kalabaria village.

Judge Md Abul Bashar Munshi of the Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal, who handed down the verdict in presence of Russel and Jewel Roy. The four others have remained at large.

The judge also fined the convicts Tk 1 lakh each, in default, to suffer one year

more in prison.

The court acquitted two other accused as allegations brought against them were not proved.

According to the case statement, armed criminals kidnapped Class-X student Masuma Akther Tina, 14, daughter Shamsur Rahman of Khalkulia village, when she came out of her house to respond to the call of nature on February 4, 2004.

Her body was found in a water body near their house four days later.

The victim's father Shamsur Rahman filed a case with Morrelganj Police Station following this incident.

After investigation, police submitted charge sheet against eight people on May 13 that year.

## Comilla Univ teachers continue agitation, want VC to resign

A CORRESPONDENT, Comilla

A group of teachers of Comilla University confined Vice Chancellor Prof Amir Hossain Khan again to his office room yesterday as they continued their demonstration for the second consecutive day to realise a 13-point demand including his resignation.

As part of their demonstration programme declared on Tuesday, around

30 teachers of Comilla University unit of Bangabandhu Shikkhak Parishad, an association of pro-Awami League teachers, started a sit-in before the VC office around 10:00am, keeping Prof Amir Hossain, inside.

The association on Tuesday decided to hold demonstrations every day from 10:00am to 2:00pm until the VC resigns.

The teachers on Sunday had given a 24-hour ultimatum to the VC to start an investigation into illegal appointments and irregularities over promotion at the university.

As he did not pay heed to the demand, the teachers kept him confined to his office room for a couple of hours from 10:00am to 5:00pm on Tuesday.

Despite the demonstration, teachers are conducting classes and continuing normal activities, said Dr Touhidur Rahman, registrar of Comilla University.

## 7 Jamaat-Shibir men arrested in Sirajganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Nine Jamaat-Shibir men were arrested in Sirajganj on Tuesday night in a case for carrying out subversive activities and obstructing law enforcers from performing their duties.

Of them, seven were arrested at Kalyanpur village in Belkuchi upazila of Pabna while the rest in Parbatipur and Birganj upazilas of Dinajpur.

A police team raided a house at Kalyanpur village in Belkuchi upazila where the Jamaat activists were holding a 'secret meeting at around 6:00pm.

The arrestees are Altaf Hossain, 65, Abdur Rashid, 50, Md. Zakaria, 24, Faridul Islam, 21, Md. Razu, 22, Md Sharif, 21 and Md Shahin, 25.

Officer-in-Charge of Belkuchi Md Abdul Hai Sarkar of Belkuchi Police Station said the Jamaat men were wanted in a case

for attacking cops at Modhupur village under the upazila on March, 29 this year.

### SNIPPETS

#### Stalker arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

Police arrested an alleged stalker in Kumarkhali area of Kushtia district early Tuesday. The arrestee is Mithun Sarker, president of Ward No 3 of Jhenidah municipality Chhatra League. Police said Mithun often teased Mousumi Biswas, a second year student of Jhenidah Government Degree College that lead her to commit suicide a few days ago. Mithun was absconding after the incident.

#### Two drown

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

A boy and a girl drowned in the district on Tuesday. The deceased were identified as Arifur Rahman Mukta, 13, a class seven student of Pabna Zila School and Surovi, 5, of Char Shahpur village in Ishwardi upazila. Family members said Mukta and his friends went to take a dip in Padma River and drowned in the afternoon. Meanwhile, Surovi while playing fell into a pond beside their house and drowned.

#### Six shops fined

UNB, Jessore

A mobile court here on Tuesday fined owners of six shops a total of Tk 1.10 lakh in the district town for selling polythene bags illegally. Executive Magistrate Shamimur Rahman conducted a drive in Gohata Road area at noon with the help of police and realised the above mentioned amount from the shops as fine. The court also seized 700 kilograms of banned polythene bags from the shops.

#### 7 held for stealing idols

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Police arrested seven people on charge of stealing two idols at Somernagor tea garden in the district yesterday morning. The arrestees are Jubair Ahmed, 33, Najmul Hossain Bablu, 38, Monir Hosain, 27, Billal Hosain, 32, Abdus Subhan, 35, Biplob Gussami, 28, and Abdul Mannan, 48 of the district. Office-In-Charge Nihar Ranjon Nath said on secret information, a police team raided the tea garden and arrested the seven with the idols.

#### Man gets life for matricide

UNB, Netrakona

A court here yesterday sentenced a man to life term imprisonment for killing his mother in 1998. The convict is Ziaur Rahman, son of late Chan Mia Fakir of Khila village in Atpara upazila. The court also fined Ziaur Tk 20,000, in default, to suffer two years more in prison. According to the prosecution, Ziaur's mother Maleka Khatun was being married off to another man on the night of October 31, 1998 after her husband's death. Outraged by the decision of her second marriage, Ziaur hit his mother with an axe, killing her on the spot.

#### Two siblings electrocuted

UNB, Kushtia

Two siblings died from electrocution at Harulia village in Sadar upazila yesterday morning. The deceased were identified as Abdul Mokim, 38, and his brother Abdul Hakim, 30, sons of late Kofil Uddin of the village. Police and family sources said Mokim came in touch with a shallow machine, which was electrified earlier so that none can steal it at night, while he was starting it around 6am. Hakim also got electrocuted as he came in the rescue of his brother, killing the duo on the spot.

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