

Villagers suffer as damaged bridge yet to be rebuilt

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pirojpur

Several thousand people, including students, of Khanakuniary and Ekpai Jujkhola villages under Pirojpur Sadar upazila of the district are facing untold suffering as a very important bridge has remained damaged for over ten years.

Locals said the iron-frame concrete bridge over the Nimar Khal and adja-

cent to Khanakuniary PER Senior Degree Madrasa was damaged in 2005. Locals repaired the bridge with wood. But the condition of the bridge later worsened, and they could not repair it.

The people have made a bamboo bridge over the canal, which is very risky to cross, especially for students. Hundred of students use the bridge to attend Khanakuniary PER Senior Degree Madrasa,

facing serious risk.

"When we cross the bridge, we feel afraid that we might fall into the canal," says Eti Khanam, a Class III student of the madrasa.

"Everyday, my father or my elder brother helps me cross the bridge," says Nadim Sheikh, a Class I student of the same madrasa.

"Over four thousand people of two villages use the bamboo bridge," said

Md Moniruzzaman, adding that a new bridge is needed immediately to remove the suffering of the people as well as to avoid accidents.

"Around 500 students study at our madrasa and over 40 percent of them have to cross the risky bridge to attend classes," said MA Gani Mahmud, principal of the madrasa.

"Students sometimes fall into the canal and their books get damaged," he adds.



PHOTO: STAR

Students of Khanakuniary Senior Degree Madrasa in Pirojpur Sadar upazila use this bamboo bridge over Nimar canal amid risk of accident as the iron-frame bridge, damaged in 2005, has not been rebuilt yet.

Pabna was freed two days after final victory

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

The district was freed from the Pakistani occupation forces on this day in 1971, two days after the country became independent on

December 16.

The freedom fighters on December 18 hoisted the national flag atop Pabna deputy commissioner's office.

The freedom fighters

fought against the occupation forces till December 15. The defeated troops then took shelter in different areas.

"They also put up barricades so that freedom fighters cannot enter the district headquarters," said freedom fighter Baby Islam, then commander of freedom fighters.

"The Pakistan occupation army remained holed up at Wapda offices in Pabna Sadar and Ishwardi upazilas on December 16. When the freedom fighters tried to enter the district headquarters on December 16, the Pak army barricaded the Pabna-Ishwardi highway," he said.

The Pakistan army surrendered on December 18 to the joint forces and started leaving Pabna. Then freedom fighters from different areas entered the district town and hoisted the flag, said

Baby Islam.

Gruesome mass killings took place at Sagarkandi, Demra, Gopalnagar, Hadal and Handial areas.

With the help of the local collaborators, the Pakistan occupation army killed at least 250 people in Sagarkandi and 400 others in Satabaria village of Sujannagar upazila under the district.

Also the Pakistan occupation army killed over two hundred people in Hadal village of Faridpur upazila in the district.

'Durjoy Pabna', a liberation war memorial was later built on the premises of Pabna deputy commissioner office to pay tribute to the martyrs of the district.

Various programmes, including discussion and cultural function, have been chalked out in the district to mark the day, said organisers.



PHOTO: STAR

The memorial for martyrs of Liberation War on the premises of Pabna deputy commissioner's office.

2 smugglers held with deer skins

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pirojpur

Members of Rapid Action Battalion arrested two smugglers with eight deer skins from Mathbaria upazila of the district on Wednesday evening.

The arrestees are Miraz Mridha, 27, son of Alam Mridha of Thanapara village in the upazila, and Halim Howlader, 38, son of late Ahmed Howlader of Char Dania village in Patharghata upazila of Barguna district.

Major Shishir, assistant director of Rab-8, said Rab personnel, acting on a tip-off, raided the house of Miraz and seized the deer skins.

Halim brought the skins from the Sundarbans and kept them at Miraz's house.

UP chairman found dead

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

The chairman of Kazihal Union Parishad was found dead in Phulbari upazila of the district yesterday.

The dead is chairman Nureba Begum, 42, wife of Md Manik of Rambhadrapur village, and an assistant teacher of Rambhadrapur Government Primary School in the upazila.

Locals found the body hanging from a tree at a litchi orchard near the victim's house in the morning and informed police.

The law enforcers rushed to the spot, recovered the body and sent it to Dinajpur Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy, said police.

The reason behind the death could not be known immediately, they said.



PHOTO: STAR

Workers remain sitting beside Chandpur Tea Garden in Chunarughat upazila under Habiganj district as around 15 thousand tea workers of four gardens in the district continued their strike for the fourth day yesterday demanding cancellation of the plan to set up a special economic zone that would cover some portions of the gardens.

Tea garden workers in Habiganj continue work abstention

Demand cancellation of plan to set up special economic zone

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Around 15,000 workers from four tea gardens in Chunarughat upazila of Habiganj district continued strike for the fourth day yesterday, demanding cancellation of the plan to set up special economic zone (SEZ).

Tea garden workers from Chandpur Tea Garden, Begum Khan Tea Garden, Jhal Bhangra Tea Garden and Ram Ganga Tea Garden went on work abstention from yesterday. They also threatened to stage a hunger strike to press the demand.

The government has decided to develop five SEZs

on 512 acres of land across the country under its Economic Zones Development Project to attract both foreign and domestic investments. One of the SEZs will be in Chandpur area of Chunarughat upazila.

"We have asked for compensation for our losses but haven't received any commitment from the government. So we decided to go for strike to get our issues resolved," said Sadhon Santal, president of Chandpur tea garden unit of Tea Labour Union.

"Once the project is implemented, the workers will lose their farmlands and houses," Swapon

Santal, advisor of the tea labour union central unit, told this correspondent.

He added that 23 tea gardens in Habiganj district will be united on a single platform to start indefinite strike from December 17 for protecting the rights of workers.

Contacted, Chunarughat upazila parishad chairman and AL upazila general secretary, Abu Taher, termed the work abstention by the tea garden workers illegal.

Police have been deployed in the area to avert any untoward incident, said Amulya Kumar Chowdhury, officer-in-charge of Chunarughat Police Station.



PHOTO: STAR

Mobile court demolishes stalls set up at an illegal fair beside Haraganga College in Munshiganj yesterday.



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1.	Procuring entity name	Khulna Shipyard Limited.
2.	Invitation for	a) Appointment of Pre-Shipment Inspection Agent. b) 1000 M. Ton bulb profile.
3.	Invitation reference No.	a) BAFE(F)-INSPECTION/2015-2016 Dt 14/12/15. b) BAFE(F)-36/Profile/2015-2016 Dt 14/12/15.
4.	Procuring method	Open tender.
5.	Budget & source of funds	Own cash finance.
6.	Tender last selling date	28 December 2015 (both tender).
7.	Tender closing date and time	29 December 2015, Time: 11:00am (both tender).
8.	Tender opening date & time	29 December 2015, Time: 11:30am (both tender).
9.	Name & address of the office(s):	a) Naval Store Sub Depot, Khilkhet Namapara, Khilkhet, Dhaka. b) Cash Section, Accounts Department, Khulna Shipyard Ltd, Bangladesh Navy, Khulna.
	(a) Selling tender document	
	(b) Receiving and opening tender document	Khulna Shipyard Ltd, Khulna.
10.	Price of tender document	a) Tk 1,000.00 (non-refundable). b) Tk 2,000.00 (non-refundable).
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