

# FLOOD WORSENS FURTHER, EROSION CONTINUES



FROM TOP: People carry on boat whatever they could save from flooded houses as they start for a safer place in Shaharbari union of Dhunat upazila under Bogra district; the swelling Teesta River threatens the spur of Water Development Board at Gobordhon village in Aditmari upazila under Lalmonirhat district; and an area being eroded by the Padma River at Betila-Syedpur village in Manikganj Sadar upazila.

## CORRECTION

A write-up by Shykh Seraj titled "Fish Breeding declines in Halda" was published on Page 13 of The Daily Star on July 28. A paragraph of the write-up goes: "The dams are very important. These work as habitats for the fishes. The fishes reside here after they migrate. This is the first point that these work as habitats of fishes," said Mr. Kibria. Actually it would be 'river turns' in place of 'dams'. We publish the correction here for right information for the readers.



PHOTO: STAR  
This photo taken at Chawrahati village in Mogholhat union in Lalmonirhat shows some of around 4,000 Indian citizens who had taken shelter at different bordering villages inside Bangladesh on Sunday, facing a flash flood at their homes. Happy with the generous help from Bangladeshis, those people returned to India under arrangement by the authorities concerned yesterday.

## One to die, five get life for murder in Bogra

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

A court of here yesterday sentenced a man to death and five others to life imprisonment for killing a man in 2008. Additional District and Sessions Judge Hafizur Rahman handed down the verdict in the afternoon. The death sentence was awarded to Abu Jinnat Hossain Jewel, 25, son of Khairuzzaman of Sholarair village in Sariakandi upazila of the district. The lifers are Sohel, 24, and Shamsul Alam Pintu, 26, of Kutubpur village, Tozam Mia, 32, of Nutunpara, Mehedi Hasan Rana, 32, of Beruabari village, and Manik Mia, 26, of Kalitola village in the upazila. The court also fined the convicts Tk 20,000, in default, they are to suffer six months more in jail. According to the case statement, the convicted hired a microbus for Dhaka on February 03, 2008. On their way, they killed its driver Sohel Rana, 30, of Bogra Sadar upazila, dumped his body in Sariakandi upazila and took away the vehicle.

## INDIAN FLOOD VICTIMS

# They return, happy with Bangladeshi generosity

S DILIP ROY, Lalmonirhat

Around 4,000 flood-affected people from India, who took shelter in villages along the Lalmonirhat border on Sunday night, went back to India yesterday morning. They were provided food and lodging by Bangladeshis from Sunday night till yesterday morning. The Indians expressed their satisfaction and gratitude to the Bangladesh people for the cordial support, locals said. Abu Sufian, 48, of Chawratari village in Mogholhat union, said, "They didn't go to their houses as those were inundated by flood water. They told me that they would be given government relief materials so they went to the mainland." Suzal Haque, 46, of the village said, "We helped them on humanitarian grounds," he said, adding that the Indians were happy with the behavior of the Bangladeshis. Ayesha Begum, 35, wife of Alamgir Hossain of India's Daribas village said, "We were happy and satisfied getting shelter and food from Bangladesh nationals. We got cordial behaviour from Bangladesh nationals." "We will never forget Bangladesh people's love. If Bangladeshis had not helped us, we would not be able to save ourselves," said Ayesha's husband. Residents of Chawratari and Karnapur

villages of Mogholhat union said four villages -- Jari Dharla, Badarkuti, Nagortari and Daribas -- of Dinhatata Police Station under Cooch Behar in West Bengal, India, stood like islands in the rivers Dharla, Singimari and Giridhari as water level of the rivers increased sharply. Marooned by flood water, many took refuge in the houses of villagers of neighbouring Bangladesh, which prompted the West Bengal government to express their gratitude to the Bangladesh government. Rabindra Nath Ghosh, a minister in the government of West Bengal, told newsmen that if these 4,000 people did not take shelter in Bangladesh, they would have been washed away by flood water. Habibur Rahman Habib, chairman of Mogholhat Union Parishad, said he visited the border villages where Indian flood affected people took shelter. "I told our people to take care of the Indian flood affected people, and they did it very well," he said. Nayek Subedar Badsha Miah, camp commander of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) 15-Battalion, said the flood affected Indian people who took shelter in the border villages went back home yesterday. Bangladesh nationals gave them shelter on humanitarian grounds, he said, adding that BGB men monitored them while they were in Bangladesh.

## Fake NID cards seized, 2 held

### Illegal SIM registration alleged

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pirojpur  
Police arrested two youths from a computer shop in Sadar upazila of the district on Wednesday on charge of making fake national identity cards for registering SIM cards. The arrestees are Md Shakil Sheikh, 22, son of Abdul Khaleq Sheikh of Bhajjora village in Sadar upazila, and Sadi Mahmud, 24, son of Fakhrul Islam of Ikri village in Bhandaria upazila. Shakil is a worker of Confidence Office Machineries shop where fake national IDs are prepared and Sadi is an employee of mobile phone operator Airtel in Pirojpur office. The law enforcers also

## Habiganj tea workers agitate for arrears

### Wages, food rations stopped for two months

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar  
Workers of Baikunthapur Tea Garden in Madhabpur upazila of Habiganj yesterday formed a human chain demanding payment of their last two months' due wages and food ration. About 2000 family members of over 400 permanent workers of the garden formed the human chain in front of the office of Madhabpur Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) yesterday morning. Due to the food crisis most of the workers' families are passing their days half-fed and fell sick, Bangladesh Tea Labour Union's Baikunthapur unit President Ram Nath Keut said. They are also not getting proper treatments as the lone hospital of the garden remained closed for the last six months, he said. Sources said although the workers are plucking the tea leaves, the owner of the factory kept its tea production unit closed since June 6 due to unknown reason, Ram Nath added. Makhani Lal Karmakar, central president of the union, said the owner of the garden gave assurance to the workers they would settle the matter before July 25 which they did not keep. Madhabpur UNO Rashedul Islam said they are trying to contact the owner of the factory and settle the issue as early as possible.



PHOTO: STAR  
Workers of Baikunthapur tea garden in Madhabpur upazila under Habiganj district demonstrate near the upazila nirbahi officer's office yesterday demanding payment of their arrear dues.

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