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The hungry tide

Jamuna swallows fresh areas near Bangabandhu bridge; sand lifting threatens to change river course

MIRZA SHAKIL, Tangail

The receding water of the Jamuna is devouring fresh areas in a village near the eastern side of the Bangabandhu Bridge in Tangail.

Many homesteads in Kalihati's Gorilabari village have already been swallowed and locals fear the entire village and its surrounding areas might be gone if steps are not taken immediately.

Talking to The Daily Star, Water Development Board (WDB) officials said large-scale illegal sand lifting near the village could have slightly changed the course of the river in the area, leading to the erosion.

The practice also might threaten the bridge protection embankment as well as the bridge itself in future, they said.

Fresh erosion hit Gorilabari, about 1.5 kilometres south to the eastern side of the bridge, early on Friday, said Nazrul Islam Talukder, a member of Gorilabari Union Parishad.

Shajahan Siraj, executive engineer of WDB in Tangail, said it was difficult to understand the ever-changing course of the Jamuna.

The confluence of the Jamuna and the New Dhaleswari rivers is nearby and the water is swirly. Sometimes, such water causes erosion. The massive-scale illegal sand lifting in the area is also to be blamed, he said.

Asked about immediate measures to stop the erosion, he

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About 50 homesteads in Gorilabari village in Tangail's Kalihati upazila have been lost to erosion in the last eight days. The village by the Jamuna had just been recovering from flood damages. Experts say indiscriminate sand-dredging, inset, exacerbates the problem. PHOTO: MIRZA SHAKIL/COLLECTED

'BAR TO MEETING CJ' SCBA to stage 5-day protest

UNB, Dhaka

The Supreme Court Bar Association yesterday announced a five-day nationwide demonstration protesting "police obstruction" of its attempt to meet Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha.

SCBA President Zainul Abedin made the announcement at a press briefing at the Bar auditorium in the morning.

"Lawyers of all district bar associations will form human chains and hold protest rallies from Sunday to Thursday protesting the obstruction," said Zainul, also a BNP leader.

Police on Friday obstructed members of the SCBA executive committee in front of the Bar Council building when they were on way to Justice Sinha's residence, he alleged.

"This proves that the chief justice didn't go on leave willingly. Rather, he was forced to take the leave."

"Article 94 of the constitution states about the independence of the judiciary"

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Mix-up over identity lands man in jail

Claims family

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Police allegedly picked up an innocent person and sent him to Joypurhat jail on Thursday as his details match with the accused in a fraudulence case filed in Dhaka.

The detainee is SM Jahangir Alam Sarkar, 25, son of Tofazzal Hossain Sarkar of College Bazar village at Akkelpur upazila in the district.

He completed his masters from Government Azizul Haque College in Bogra. Son of a bicycle repairman in the area, he is a house tutor, family members say.

On the other side, SM Jahangir Alam Sardar, 35, son of Tofazzal Hossain Sardar of Santa village in Akkelpur, is the accused in the fraudulence case filed in 2014.

His business centre M/s Sardar Traders is situated in College Bazar area, but locals say the shop remained closed for last couple of months.

Detained Jahangir's family members said a team of Akkelpur police knocked on the door around 1:30am on Thursday.

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US selling THAAD to Saudi Arabia

AFP, Washington

The US government has approved the sale to Saudi Arabia of the advanced Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) missile defense system for \$15 billion, the State Department said Friday.

"This sale furthers US national security and foreign policy interests, and supports the long-term security of Saudi Arabia and the Gulf region in the face of Iranian and other regional threats," a statement said.

The green light for the deal, which Saudi Arabia has long sought, came one day after King Salman met Russia's President Vladimir Putin and signed a preliminary agreement to look at Moscow's S-400 air defense system.

The THAAD -- which has already been supplied to Saudi Arabia's neighbors Qatar and the United Arab Emirates -- is one of the most capable defensive missile batteries in the US arsenal and comes equipped with an advanced radar system.

Its recent deployment by the US military in South Korea to protect against any North Korean strike drew protests from Beijing, who feared its sensors would be able to penetrate into Chinese air space and upset the balance of power.

The State Department said it would advise Congress that, in Saudi hands, the system would act to stabilize the situation in the Gulf and help defend US forces in the region and their allies, who face a growing Iranian missile capability.

"The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region," it said.

Officials told AFP that the sale, which can go ahead if the US Congress does not object within 30 days, should be seen as part of an overall \$110 billion arms package that President Donald Trump promised the Saudi kingdom during a visit in May.

"This potential sale will substantially increase Saudi Arabia's capability to defend itself against the growing ballistic missile threat in the region," a

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Yaba trader escapes from police custody

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Munshiganj

A suspected yaba trader arrested in Sreenagar upazila escaped from police custody at Sreenagar Police Station yesterday evening.

Md Parvez Majhi alias Sakha, 31, son of Abbas Majhi of Selamoti village escaped at around 8:30am.

After the incident Munshiganj police super Md Zayedul Alam inspected Sreenagar police station. Sub-inspector (SI) Nasir of the police station has been closed and attached to the police line in connection with the incident.

Police arrested Sakha at around 10:30pm on Friday from Koikirtan in Sreenagar upazila and recovered 190 pieces of Yaba tablets from him. RAB filed a case against Sakha under the anti-drugs

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Taking selfies with street harassers!



INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

Being harassed on the street is an all too frequent occurrence for most women.

And often when it happens, it's hard to know how best to react. Should you engage with your catcaller or ignore them?

Well one young woman has found an ingenious way to deal with her harassers and send a powerful message at the same time.

20-year-old Noa Jansma, a student from Amsterdam, takes selfies with every man who catcalls her.

And these aren't sly selfies without the men realising either - she asks them and they're happy to

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Man held for 'raping' his daughter

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police arrested a man last night on charges of raping his 13-year-old daughter in Chittagong.

During primary interrogation, the arrestee, a 38-year-old CNG-auto rickshaw driver from Lohagara upazila, has confessed to raping the girl on October 1, said Mohammad Shahjahan, officer-in-charge of Lohagara Police Station.

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SIBL Foundation Hospital & Diagnostic Center

PRAYER TIMING OCTOBER 8

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 4-45 12-45 4-15 5-53 7-30

JAMAAT 5-20 1-15 4-30 5-56 8-00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



Fighting back

Acid attack survivor leads social movement to prevent attacks, raise awareness

ABU BAKAR SIDDIQUE

Mosammat Pearsa Begum has been living with vivid memories of the acid attack on her for her refusal to engage in an extra marital affair, as if it happened only yesterday.

It was on December 17, 1998. The muazzin's call to the evening prayer could be heard in the distance when her eldest son's private tutor, Rakib Uddin, of the nearby Barigaon village, approached her house. Little did she know what was about to befall her.

Rakib, whom she had recently asked to discontinue the private tuition after he professed his love for her, flung open the door and threw acid at her. Some of the liquid splashed on her youngest son Awlad Hossain, next to her.

"At first, I felt a burning sensation on my face like my skin was peeling off. I then screamed like never before and lost consciousness," recalls 45-year-old Pearsa.

Neighbours ran to call her husband and took her to Kapasia Health Complex. Doctors there referred her to Dhaka Medical College Hospital that advised them to take her to the Acid Survivors Foundation in Mirpur.

PHOTO: ABU BAKAR SIDDIQUE

Acid attack victims from different upazilas of Gazipur discuss ways to become self-reliant at a monthly meeting at the house of Pearsa Begum, a victim herself and the founder of Swanirvar Mohila Unnayan Sangstha, in Gosaigaon village of Kapasia.

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PREMIER cement

Tigers Profile

Rubel Hossain



Rubel Hossain is tied to some of Bangladesh's best moments. His Yorker to bowl Kyle Mills in Dhaka in October 2010 sealed a seminal 4-0 series whitewash of New Zealand. A hat-trick out of nowhere in the first ODI in Dhaka against the same opponents three years later set the scene for another whitewash.

Two years later, with Bangladesh facing up to England at Adelaide in the 2015 World Cup and eyeing a historic progression to the knockout stages for the first time, he not only took four wickets but when it was looking like England may just sneak home, produced an inswinging lightning bolt that pegged back Stuart Broad's stumps to signal delirium.

Blessed with natural pace and possessing a slinging action that makes it harder for batsmen to pick up his length. On his day he can be dangerous, and when on song he is certainly the fastest bowler ever produced by Bangladesh.

His exploits however have all been in ODI cricket, a format where he has taken 93 wickets in 77 matches since his debut at a not-embarrassing average of 35.19. His figures in Test cricket however make for grim reading. He averages almost 78 runs per wicket, and that he has played just 25 matches since making his debut against West Indies in 2009 speaks to his inconsistency.



কল্পবাজার - টেকমাফ
মেরিন ড্রাইভ
বিনির্মাণে আমরা
গরিত অংশীদার

আমরা প্রমাণে বিশ্বাসী