



BRIDGES REMAIN MOCKERY FOR LOCALS: Like several others in Lalmonirhat, the bridges at 1) Dikri Char village in Durgapur union of Aditmari upazila, 2) Purbo Shalmara village in Belabari union under the same upazila, and 3) Balapara village in Rajpur union of Sadar upazila are lying useless as the authorities concerned are yet to build the approach roads.

10 Lalmonirhat bridges without approach roads

People continue to suffer as link uncertain

S DILIP ROY, Lalmonirhat

Ten bridges, constructed over canals and small rivers at different villages in four upazilas under the district one to four years ago, are still lying useless due to lack of approach roads.

Of the bridges, one was constructed by Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) at Balapara village, six by the Department of Disaster Management at Chinatuli and Panchagram villages in Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila, Purbo Shalmara and Kamlabari villages in Aditmari and Bhateshwar and Sholmari villages in Kaliganj upazila, three by the local union parishad (UP) at Dikri Char village in Aditmari, Dawabari village of Hatibandha and Kawamari village of Patgram upazila.

"The union parishad built a footbridge on the canal in mid-2016 but we cannot use it due to lack of approach road," said Aktar Ali, 65, of Dikri Char village of Aditmari upazila.

"LGED built a bridge over the Sati river four years ago but no vehicles, not even rickshaws and bicycles, can move on it as approach roads are yet to be made," said Afzal Hossain, 52, of Balapara village in Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila.

Mobarok Hossain, 48, at Purbo Shalmara village of Aditmari said the Department of Disaster Management built a bridge over a canal but it is lying useless due to lack of approach road.

Salekuzzaman Pramanik, chairman of Durgapur UP in Aditmari upazila, said approach roads for the foot over bridge at Dikri Char village would be built by December this year.

"The contractors concerned were not given their payment as they didn't complete the approach roads of the bridges. Approach roads would be completed hopefully by June next year," said Mafizul Islam, disaster management department's project implementation officer in Aditmari upazila.

LGED Executive Engineer Zakiur Rahman said, "It was not possible to build approach road of the bridge over the Sati river at Balapara village as local land owners declined to sell their lands. We are still trying to convince the land owners to sell their lands to build the approach road."

PHOTO: DILIP ROY

We are passing a crucial time

Tearful Fakhrul tells Mahila Dal conference

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

Thakurgaon auto-bike drivers

on Monday demanded

an end to extortion by a

section of local influential

transport workers backed by

the ruling party leaders.

Auto Sramik Odhikar

Andolon leaders submitted a

memorandum to the deputy

commissioner in this regard.

The speakers at the rally

said the auto-bike drivers

have to pay illegal tolls at

ten points.

Everyday a bike driver

has to pay Tk 10 at each

point. Some drivers have to

pay up to Tk 40, they said.

Auto-bike Sramik Kalyan

Society in Thakurgaon

collected over Tk 2 lakh

daily from 18,000 auto-bike

drivers at the mentioned

points, said the speakers.

They also urged the

municipal authority to col-

lect Tk 300 as license renewal

fees instead of Tk 500.

To get relief from the toll

collection, they urged the

authorities concerned to

take immediate steps in

this regard.

Refuting the allegation of

toll collection, General

Secretary of the organisation

Siddique Hossain said auto-

bike drivers pay an amount

for their welfare fund.

Meet 7-point demand

Textile students urge govt

OUR CORRESPONDENT,

Tangail

Students of Bangabandhu Textile Engineering College (BTEC) in Kalihati upazila formed a human chain on the campus yesterday to realise their seven-point demand.

The demands include allocation of two buses for transportation of the students, construction of a student hall, ensuring security for the female students' dormitory, starting activities of the modern laboratory, ensuring smooth power supply and inauguration of the institute by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

The college was estab-

lished in 2007.

Speakers at the rally

urged the government to

meet their demands imme-

diately, otherwise they will

go for tougher movement.

Forhatun Nahar and Shirin Akhter were elected president and general secretary of Thakurgaon Mahila Dal.

JMB man on remand in Mymensingh

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

A court here yesterday placed a Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) man on a five-day remand.

Tareq Mohammad, arrested by Detective Branch (DB) of police from Bhaluka upazila on Monday night, was produced before the Chief Judicial Magistrate's court with a 10-day remand prayer yesterday afternoon.

Tareq, 22, is son of Maulana Aftab Uddin of Bororchar Kustiapara village in Sadar upazila.

On information, a DB police team raided Jamirdia area in Bhaluka and arrested him. Later, he was handed over to Bhaluka Police Station.

"In primary interrogation, the arrestee confessed that he was an associate of JMB man Alam Pramanik, who was killed in a bomb blast at Chhoto Kashor in Bhaluka on August 27 this year," said Officer-in-Charge of district DB police Ashiqur Rahman.

I have never seen a doctor

Says an indigenous woman in Bandarban

SANJOY KUMAR BARUA, Bandarban

She does not want any more children, but she has never seen a doctor or even a hospital in her life and she does not know what family planning is.

Hashtoti Tripura, 26, of remote Remakri union under Thanchi upazila of the district already has four children and is now five-month pregnant.

"I don't want any more children, but I don't know from where I will receive suggestions on how to prevent pregnancy," Hashtoti said. "I never saw a doctor or even a hospital in my life," she added.

Hashtoti's family lives in Haliram para, a remote area, along with fifteen other families.

There are three other pregnant women in Haliram para, who also don't know what family planning is.

"Nobody comes to see us, while local representatives come only before election," said Raje Ram Tripura of the area.

"Doctors do not want to go to the remote areas of the upazila," said Remakri Union

Parishad Chairman Mui Shwe Thoai Marma, who lives in Bandarban town.

"There is only one community clinic for around 14,000 indigenous people in Remakri union, but it remains closed most of the time," he added.

"It is really tough to communicate with pregnant women in remote areas, so we have proposed a 'Safe Delivery Home Programme' for those areas," said Deputy Director of Bandarban Family Planning Department Dr Aung Tha Loo.

"Recently, a medical team visited Remakri bazar area where we found 25 pregnant women," he said.

"It is really sad that people of remote areas in the district are still deprived of health care as we have to work under lots of limitations," Civil Surgeon Dr Aung Swi Prue Marma said.

"We are working to establish more health centres in remote hills, but it takes time," said State Minister of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs Ministry Bir Bahadur U Shwe Sing.



PHOTO: STAR



Students of Bangabandhu Textile Engineering College in Tangail's Kalihati upazila form a human chain on the campus to realise their seven-point demand.

STEP Skills Competition 2017

ক্ষিলস এ্যাভ ট্রেনিং এনহালসমেন্ট প্রজেক্ট (STEP)

কারিগরি ও মানব শিক্ষা বিভাগ, শিক্ষা মন্ত্রণালয়, এফ-৪/বি, আগারগাঁও, ঢাকা-১২০৭

ক্ষিলস কম্পিটিশন-২০১৭

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার আর্থিক সহায়তায় বাস্তবায়নধীন "ক্ষিলস এ্যাভ ট্রেনিং এনহালসমেন্ট প্রজেক্ট (STEP)" কর্তৃক আয়োজিত কারিগরি শিক্ষান্তরের সর্ববহু উৎসব "ক্ষিলস কম্পিটিশন ২০১৭" এর আঞ্চলিক পর্যায়ের প্রতিযোগিতা আগস্ট ০১ ডিসেম্বর ২০১৭ তারিখ খুন্দবার দেশব্যাপী ১৩টি ভেন্যুতে একযোগে অনুষ্ঠিত হবে।

দেশের সরকার-বেসরকারি ১৬৫টি পলিটেকনিক ইনসিটিউটে অনুষ্ঠিত "ক্ষিলস কম্পিটিশন ২০১৭" এর প্রাথমিক পর্যায়ের প্রতিযোগিতা খেকে নির্বাচিত শিক্ষার্থীদের সেরা ৪৮১টি উচ্চাবন/প্রকল্প আঞ্চলিক প্রতিযোগিতায় প্রদর্শিত হবে। বিস্তারিত তথ্যের জন্য ক্ষিলস কম্পিটিশনের ওয়েব সাইট www.skillscompetition.com.bd ও STEP প্রকল্পের ওয়েব সাইট: www.step-dte.gov.bd ভিজিট করুন।

এ বি এম আজাদ

প্রকল্প পরিচালক (যুগ্ম সচিব), STEP

মিডিয়া পার্টনার: কারিগরি পার্টনার: অটিপ পার্টনার

মিডিয়া পার্টনার: কারিগরি পার্টনার: অটিপ পার্টনার