

# Innovative bridge

56 youths in Manirampur upazila build the floating bridge, to be opened on January 1

MOHSIN MILON, Benapole

An innovative floating bridge, aimed at easing communication from Jhampa village to Manirampur upazila headquarters via Rajganj Bazar under Jessore, waits opening on January 1.

Thousands of people including school and college going students from Jhampa village and nearby areas are going to get better communication opportunity, as they will be able to cross the bridge on foot as well as small vehicles.

Jhampa Village Development Foundation comprising 56 youths conducted the work with the spontaneous help of the villagers.

The thousand-foot-long bridge, made of 839 plastic drums, 800 iron angles and 250 four-foot-wide iron plates, involved a cost of around Tk 70 lakh, said Mehedi Hasan Tutul, president of Jhampa Village Development Foundation.

"The story goes back to five years ago. A few people including Asaduzzaman, a local teacher, were sitting on the banks of the Baor. Seeing a sand lifting machine that was

kept floating on plastic drums, Asaduzzaman suggested that such drums could also float a bridge," Tutul said.

They started spreading the idea to the villagers and fund collection for the purpose followed.

"Early this year, the foundation was formed, comprising 56 youths of the village. Locals in general cooperated. We started work for construction of the floating bridge in August," Tutul said.

"As we don't have any technological knowledge for building the bridge, we consulted with the upazila engineer and a few officials of Jessore Deputy Commissioner's Office. Everyone appreciated the idea of building creating an environment-friendly bridge.

"The bridge will be opened for public use on January 1. The funding for maintenance of the bridge will also go on as motorbikes, vans, three-wheelers and private cars will pass the bridge by paying small amounts," said the organiser.

Manirampur Upazila Nirbahi Officer Obaidur Rahman said, "I have seen the construction work of the floating bridge over the Jhampa Baor (a water body). The initiative will benefit thousands of villagers."



This floating bridge, meant for easing communication from Jhampa village to Manirampur upazila headquarters of Jessore, waits opening for public on January 1, thanks to the villagers' labour of love, following innovation of a few local youths.

PHOTO: MOHSIN MILON

# Memorial lies abandoned

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

A number of people, including freedom fighters, who had embraced martyrdom at the hands of Pakistani occupation forces and their local collaborators during the Liberation War, were buried in Shamshearnagar area under Kamalganj upazila of the district.

Due to lack of maintenance, the monument stand and memorial built at the mass grave has turned into an abandoned place while others are about to be obliterated, said local freedom fighters.

According to a decision at Kamalganj upazila parishad coordination meeting, local union parishad (UP) chairman will maintain the memorial monument and the memorial pillar but it is utterly neglected, said freedom fighter Sajjadur Rahman, sub-commander, Kamalpur sub-sector, sector 4 of the Liberation War.

Since the historic speech of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on March 7 in 1971, residents of Shamshearnagar used to carry out rallies against the Pakistani regime every day that angered head of local Muslim League leader Arif Munshi and Pakistani army officers who stayed in the district town.

The occupation forces then killed magician Sirajul Islam, 80, on March 27 in Shamshearnagar. At that time, local people got upset. The following day, the freedom fighters killed nine members of the occupation forces, including Captain Golam Rasul, in a planned operation in Shamshearnagar.

After the incident, the Pakistani troops set up camp in Dakbanglow area and since then they tortured locals and shot dead many people in the northwest corner of the runway in Shamshearnagar Airport. Besides,

many freedom fighters were killed in the area during the nine months of Liberation War.

During a recent visit to the area, this correspondent found the entire memorial and monument stand covered with bushes. The entrance is covered by bamboo weeds.

On August 18 in 2008, the then finance and planning minister M Saifur Rahman inaugurated the memorial. Later, the Public Works Department built the memorial and monument stand in 2012-13 fiscal year.

Upazila Nirbahi Officer Mohammad Mahmudul Haque said instructions have been given to the chairman of Shamshearnagar Union Parishad on maintenance of the mass killing site.

UP Chairman Jewel Ahmed said the mass killing site is cleaned before March 26 and December 16 every year.



The memorial built for Liberation War martyrs is covered with bushes in Shamshearnagar area of Moulvibazar's Kamalganj upazila.

PHOTO: STAR

# Baby dies in water pot

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

An 18-month-old child died in Basail upazila yesterday after falling into a water pot, locally called chari.

The deceased was Yamin, son of Abdur Razzak of Kolia village under Kawuljani union.

Family members said the baby's mother was doing household work with him sitting beside her around 10:00am. At one stage, she saw the baby was missing.

Later, his body was found in a water pot at a corner of the yard, they said.

# Food official falls from rail bridge, dies

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

A food department official died after falling from a rail bridge at Mirzapur upazila on Friday night.

The deceased, Rafiqul Islam, 45, was a food inspector at the central storage depot in Tejgaon in Dhaka and son of late Razzak Master of Boruha village in Sadar upazila.

Police said Rafiqul and his wife were going to his sister's house at Baor Kumarjani village through the Joydevpur-Bangabandhu Bridge rail track on foot when he slipped and fell into a canal through a gap in the bridge and sustained an injury on the head.

Locals rescued seriously injured Rafiqul and took him to the Kumudini Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries a little later.

# Mysterious death of woman, her two children

Three women sent to jail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

A Barlekha court in the district yesterday sent three women to jail arrested on Friday in connection with the mysterious death of a woman and her two children.

The Barlekha Senior Judicial Magistrate's Court gave the order after police produced the three women before it.

Police arrested Nasima Akter, 25, Alifjan Begum, 42, and Monwara Begum, 52, of Bhularkandi village in Barlekha upazila of the district in connection with the mysterious death of a woman and her two children on Tuesday at the village.

The victims were Majeda Begum, 25, wife of Qatar expatriate Akram Ali, her daughter Laboni Begum, 5, and son Faruq Ahmed, 3.

Majeda's cousin Imran Ahmad yesterday filed a case against seven named people, including the three women, and four to five unnamed others with Barlekha Police Station.

Officer-in-Charge (OC) of the police station Shahidur Rahman said police are investigating the incident. It seemed a planned killing, the OC said, adding that police recovered the bodies of the mother and her two children from their house on Tuesday night.

Quoting local Union Parishad member, Additional Superintendent of Police Abu Yusuf said Majeda was constructing a tin-roofed house and she went to the spot to see for herself the work on Tuesday afternoon, like she did every day.

A worker found the door of Majeda's house closed from inside in the evening when he went there to bring some construction materials from her. As he did not get any response to his calls, he told some locals about the matter. The locals entered the room breaking open the door and found the bodies.

The police official said the law enforcers found the bodies of mother and daughter hanging from the ceiling, while the boy's body was found lying on the floor.

# 17 injured as Faridpur AL factions clash

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

At least 17 people were injured in a clash between two groups of ruling Awami League (AL) men over establishing supremacy in Saltha upazila yesterday.

Of the injured, some were admitted to Faridpur Medical College Hospital while the others took treatment at Nagorkanda Upazila Health Complex.

Quoting villagers, police said there had been a long-standing rivalry between Majardia Union Parishad Chairman Habibur Rahman and Selim Matabbor, organising secretary of Majardia Union unit AL, over establishing supremacy in the locality.

The clash occurred when one of Salim's supporters slapped a follower of Habibur at Majardia Bazar on Friday evening.

As a sequel, both the groups equipped with sharp weapons attacked each other, leaving 17 people from both sides injured.

Selim said the chairman and his men attacked his supporters in a bid to take revenge as one of his supporters joined the opposite group recently while Habibur claimed that Selim's men beat his supporter at Majardia Bazar.

# 2 domestic helps sent to jail for raping maid

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Police on Friday detained two male servants, who work at a local councillor's house, in connection with a case for raping a teenage domestic help of the same house in Madan upazila of Netrakona the same day.

The arrestees, Fazlul Haque, 45, and Ekdil Mia, 46, of Jahangirpur area under Madan municipality, were produced before a court that sent them to jail yesterday, Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Madan Police Station Md Shawkat Ali said.

Primarily police found the allegation to be true, OC Shawkat said, adding that they sent the girl, hailing from Khaliyajury upazila, to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital for a medical test yesterday.

According to the case statement, the three were acquainted with each other very closely and the alleged rapists told the poor girl that they would marry her off with a youth.

Subsequently, they persuaded the girl to come out of her employer's house to meet the youth on Thursday and took her to an abandoned house near Jaalsiar Haor and raped her there.

Hearing her cry for help, villagers went to the spot and rescued the victim with the help of police.

Later, following a case filed by the victim with Madan Police Station on Friday, police arrested Fazlul and Ekdil the same day.

The law enforcers also seized 40 pieces of Yaba tablets from Fazlul's possession, the OC added.

# DEATH OF FARMER RANJIT It's murder, cop probe eyewash, says family

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Family members and local people have alleged that the body of farmer Ranjit Chandra Roy was hung from a tree branch after killing him at Shialkhowa village of Kaliganj upazila under the district on December 8.

"We lodged a murder case but police recorded it as an unnatural death (UD) case," said Ranjit's elder brother Sudhir Chandra Roy.

The body of farmer Ranjit Chandra Roy, 48, son of late Sharot Chandra Roy, was found hanging from a jackfruit tree beside the home of Babu Islam, son of Syed Ali, about a quarter kilometre off the victim's home at the village on the morning of December 8, police said.

Slain Ranjit's son Subrata Chandra Roy, 20, said, his father was murdered and then the body was hung in an attempt to pass it off as suicide.

"There were marks of assault in his body and earth was found in his two hands and two legs. The hanging rope was also covered

with mud," he said.

Ranjit's wife Bharati Rani Roy told this correspondent, "Police investigation regarding the incident seems to be eyewash. Case Investigation Officer SI Raju Ahmed visited us two times but we could not give statement freely as the officer was accompanied by suspected killers."

However SI Raju Ahmed of Kaliganj Police Station said, "I don't know how some people got information about my presence for investigation at the slain farmer's home. I will visit late Ranjit's house again for recording statement of family members."

Ranjit's younger son Partho Roy said, "The day before my father was killed, Babu Islam, son of Syed Ali, came to our home and gave threat to our father when he was

working in the adjacent crop field."

Contacted, Babu Islam declined to talk with the journalist in this regard.

Kaliganj Police Station Officer in Charge Maqbul Hossain said, "We are waiting for the post-mortem report to ascertain whether it is murder or suicide. Police will take necessary legal step following the report."

"We lodged a murder case but police recorded it as an unnatural death case."



**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
 Official of the Divisional Engineer/2  
 Bangladesh Railway, Dhaka

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**e-Tender Notice (Open Tender Method)**

e-Tenders is invited in the National e-GP Portal for following procurement. Interested tenderers are requested to visit <http://www.eprocure.gov.bd> website for details.

Sl No.	Tender ID, Ref. No. & Package No.	Name of works	Last selling date and time	Tender closing date & time
01	Tender ID-145068 Ref. DEN/2/Dhaka/e-Tender/24/2017-2018 Package No. DA-2/e-GP/17-18/1.15	At BCI Section: Face lifting of Narsingdi Station Building with other ancillary works.	03.01.2018 11.00am	03.01.2018 12.00 noon
02	Tender ID-145074 Ref. DEN/2/Dhaka/e-Tender/25/2017-2018 Package No. DA-2/e-GP/17-18/1.16	At KRF Section: Face lifting with petty repair to Srimongal Station Building	03.01.2018 11.00am	03.01.2018 12.00 noon
03	Tender ID-146490 Ref. DEN/2/Dhaka/e-Tender/26/2017-2018 Package No.-DA-2/e-GP/17-18/1.17	At KRF Section: Through repairs to RNB office including construction of septic tank	03.01.2018 11.00am	03.01.2018 12.00 noon

This is an online tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. All Railway tenderer are requested to register in e-GP.

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