



A man sits on a cot as floodwater enters his house at Gobordhan village in Mahishkocha union under Aditmari upazila of Lalmonirhat yesterday. Inset, a woman catches fish in floodwater at her courtyard at the same village. The photos were taken yesterday.



PHOTO: STAR

Thousands marooned by flood

Teesta flowing above danger level while water level rises in Dharla

S DILIP ROY, Lalmonirhat

Over twenty thousand people at 40 villages in chars and river basins in five upazilas were marooned by flash flood caused by rise in the water levels of the Teesta and Dharla rivers yesterday.

Vast areas of croplands with Aman paddy plants went under water at the affected villages in 15 unions. The water level of the Teesta river was flowing above the danger mark while the Dharla river water level was below the danger mark yesterday.

District Water Development Board (WDB) Executive Engineer Abullah Al-Mamun said the Teesta river was flowing 15

centimetres above the danger level of 52.60 centimetres at Teesta Barrage point of Hatibandha upazila at dawn yesterday, but it was flowing only two centimetres above the danger level yesterday noon, while the Dharla river was flowing only three centimetres below the danger mark of 31.20 centimetres at Shimulbari point in Sadar upazila.

Abdullah Al-Mamun told this correspondent that the level of the Teesta river increased on Monday night and at dawn yesterday due to onrush of water from upstream India. The level decreased later yesterday, he said. "The Teesta water level will come down under the danger mark by Wednesday

morning," he said, adding that the floodwater was entering the houses in chars and river basin villages.

"The water from the Teesta river entered our houses while we were sleeping on Monday night," said flood affected Moslema Begum, 45, of Gobordhan village in Aditmari upazila. "We took shelter on the government road on Tuesday morning," he said.

"As floodwater entered our house, I had to spend the day on the cot yesterday," said Mazibar Rahman, 50, of the same village.

Mahishkocha Union Parishad Chairman Mosaddeque Hossain Chowdhury told this correspondent that at least seven thousand people in his union

were marooned by flash flood from the Teesta river. "We rescued many people and took them to safer places on Monday night," he said.

Community Health Provider of Gobordhan Community Clinic in Aditmari upazila Abdul Hakim said he distributed water purifying tablets to around one thousand families yesterday. "We will distribute oral saline and other medicines after the floodwater recedes," he said.

Deputy Commissioner Shafiul Arif said officials of the district and upazila administrations visited the flash flood hit areas yesterday and sanctioned dry food for affected people immediately.

Body to probe docs' cheating

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

The civil surgeon (CS) of Habiganj formed a committee on Monday to probe the allegation of doctors' attempt to fleece the parents of a 40-day-old baby in Nabiganj upazila of Habiganj.

"The three-member committee headed by Nabiganj Upazila Health Complex's Resident Medical Officer Abdus Samad has been formed to probe the allegations of sending a healthy child to a Moulvibazar hospital for earning money," CS Suchinto Chowdhury said.

"I have asked the committee to submit report within next seven workdays," he said.

"Forty-day-old Ismat Nahar, daughter of Rubel Mia and Shirin Akhter, was taken to Dr AHM Khairul Bashar, the paediatric doctor of Orbit Hospital at Aushkandi in Nabiganj, on August 31. The fraudulence came to light with the leaking of Bashar's mobile conversation with another doctor," said Tofazzal Sohel, coordinator of Sangkhudbo Nagorik Andolon's Habiganj unit.

The baby's mother Shirin Akhter said, "Dr Khairul Bashar prescribed some medicines after taking fee of Tk 500. The next day, when I told him that the child took a long time to take milk, he told me that her condition was very serious."

"Upon his advice, I admitted my child to Mamun Hospital in Moulvibazar and met Dr Biswajit there. I requested him to talk to Dr Bashar via my mobile when somehow the call record option was on."

"While checking the mobile on September 4, I came across the call record and learnt from it that Dr Biswajit, referring to various medical tests, told Dr Bashar that the child was fully OK. But Dr Bashar told Dr Biswajit to keep the child admitted, give her some injections and tell the mother that he was sick."

"The doctors cheated with poor parents like us," she said.

Lightning kills 4 Magura farmers

A CORRESPONDENT, Magura

Four farmers were killed by lightning at Atharokhoda village in Magura Sadar upazila yesterday noon.

The deceased were identified as Rahmat Molla, 45, Monnu Molla, 25, Samin Molla, 30, and Akram Hossain, 30, Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Abu Sufian said.

They were the sole bread earners of their families, locals said.

The farmers were killed by lightning strikes when they were working at a jute field in rain at Rupdaho beel in the area, said the UNO.

On information, police and fire service personnel took them to Magura Sadar Hospital where doctors declared them dead.

The farmers died before they were taken to the hospital, said Dr Amar Prasad.

On the other hand, after visiting the hospital, Magura Deputy Commissioner Atikur Rahman handed over Tk 10,000 to the family of each victim.

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3. **Selection Criteria:** Financial standing, technical/ business knowhow, efficient & swift performance, documents/ records correctness.

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5. Clarification and guidance (if any) may be obtained from Chief Engineer, PMC, Union Group as under mentioned detail.

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7. DCCL reserves the right to reject applications without assigning reasons.

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Teachers and staff at the veranda of Dakhin Koirati Government Primary School which is under threat of collapse due to landslide.

PHOTO: STAR

School under threat of collapse

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

A primary school is under threat of collapse due to landslide following breaking down of a nearby pond's boundary wall in Nandail upazila.

Dakhin Koirati Government Primary School was established on a 50-decimal land in 1977.

To accommodate the rush of students, another building was constructed in 2010, said school sources. The school was nationalised in 2013.

There was a pond near the school. Due to breaking down of the pond's boundary wall for some 15 years, it

has already covered around 21-decimal of the school land but none took initiative yet to protect the school, said local people.

The two buildings of the school are now under serious threat as the earth alongside the buildings has been washed away due to pressure from pond water, they said.

Headmaster ABM Anwarul Haque said there are some 200 students in the school but they cannot play on their field as its size has shrunken over the years.

They have already informed the authorities concerned to take immediate steps but nothing has been done yet, he said.

Atiqur Rahman Khan, former president of the school managing committee, said the primary school is the lone one in the area and it should be protected from the landslide.

To protect the school from being devoured, a guide wall must be constructed and then earth filling must be done, said Atiqur Rahman.

Assistant Upazila Education Officer Afroza Begum, who visited the school recently, said the matter was discussed at upazila coordination meeting last month for immediate step to protect the school. But no work was started yet.

Illegal clinic sealed in Kushtia

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

A private clinic in Meherpur's Gangni upazila was sealed off on Monday for operating the business illegally.

A mobile court, led by Executive Magistrate Mohidul Islam, raided Karamdi Dental Clinic in Karamdi area in the upazila in the afternoon and asked the authorities concerned to show their documents.

As owner of the clinic Emdadul Haq failed to show any valid papers, the court sealed off the clinic.

Executive Magistrate Mohidul said earlier mobile courts fined the same clinic on two occasions for not having any legal documents.

Thief suspect killed in mob beating

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Brahmanbaria

A suspected thief was beaten to death by villagers at Harashpur village in Bijoynagar upazila early yesterday.

The deceased was Shahidul Islam, 45, son of late Tajul Islam of Bhubhan village in Nasirnagar upazila.

Confirming the matter, Sub-Inspector (SI) Jalal Uddin, acting in-charge of Awlia Bazar Investigation Centre, said villagers caught Shahidul red-handed while he was committing theft in Harashpur Boroachal Primary School after breaking the lock.

On information, police rushed to the spot, rescued Shahidul and took him to Brahmanbaria Sadar Hospital where the doctors declared him dead.

The SI said police will investigate if there is any case filed against Shahidul with the police station, and necessary action will be taken on the basis of the finding.

On information, police rushed to the spot, rescued Shahidul and took him to Brahmanbaria Sadar Hospital where the doctors declared him dead.

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