



Sand extracted by a dredger in the Lohalia river near Patuakhali launch terminal is left hardly 200 metres away in the same riverbed. The farcical act, continuing for over a month, stopped a few days ago. *Inset*, a launch lies stuck in the silted area adjacent to the terminal during low tide.

PHOTO: STAR

Dredging, for what purpose?

Lifted mud left at the same spot; work stopped after month-long futile exercise

SOHRAB HOSSAIN, Patuakhali

It was a sight to behold for the last one odd month.

Two dredgers of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) were dredging the Lohalia river in Patuakhali, but inexplicably disposing the sucked sand and mud barely 200 metres away in the same river.

It was an exercise to 'ensure' navigability for water transport of Patuakhali-Dhaka route during dry season. Dredging however stopped for the last few days following instructions from the higher authorities.

"Finding no place, we disposed sand into the river. But we have stopped dredging following instruction from the higher authority," said site engineer Hasanur Rahman Ripon.

"We have stopped dredging and are looking for sites to dispose lifted sand," he said, adding that farmers do not allow them to dump sand on farmlands along the river banks.

"We allow disposal of sand on river banks to keep launch service active on emergency basis," said Masud Rana, sub-assistant engineer of dredging department of BIWTA.

He said they need to dredge different points of the Lohalia river every year due to continuous

silting that causes navigability crisis.

"This year we have estimated to cut about 2 lakh cubic metres of sand at a cost of Tk 3 crore," he said.

But commuters along the route say navigability crisis, which turned acute during low tide, remained the same.

"Like every year dredging started in Patuakhali launch ghat area in December. But the situation has not improved for heavy water vehicles including double-decker passenger launch that got stuck due to poor navigability at minimum 10 points for hours every night on the route," said launch operator Salam (not his real name).

Depth of the riverbed at those points turns as low as four cubits (around six feet) during low tide, making navigation impossible, he said, adding that Kobai, Karkhana, Lohalia, Laukathi and Sahakathi on the Lohalia river are the worst affected points.

"Dhaka-bound passenger launches from Patuakhali get stuck at different points during low tide due to poor navigability for about two to five hours every night. These launches leave the place for Dhaka during high tide, said Md Eunus, supervisor of Sundarban-9.

"Normally it takes maximum 10 hours to go

to Dhaka from Patuakhali, but now we need two to five hours more. The authorities concerned arrange dredging the river every year but we aren't getting its benefits," he said.

Three double-decker launches start for Dhaka from Patuakhali launch ghat at about 5:00pm every day.

Jamal Hossain, a first-class sareng (master), said he often has to anchor on mid-river at different points during low tide.

"We submitted a petition to the authority last October urging them to dredge at 10 important points stretching over 8.50 km of the route so that plying of launches is not hampered," said Bahadur Hawlader, master of MV Asa-jawa, a double-decker launch using the route.

"Although two dredgers are working in Lohalia river mouth and Karkhanar areas separately for a month, we don't get any benefit as the sand is left in the same riverbed," he added.

"It's a sheer wastage of money," said advocate Tariquzzaman Moni, chairman of Patuakhali Sadar Upazila Parishad.

Kabir Hossain Talukder, chairman of Lohalia Union Parishad under Sadar upazila, said he would have helped BIWTA authorities to find suitable spots for leaving sand if he had been informed.

5,000 textbooks seized in Habiganj, two held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Police in a drive on Monday night seized a large number of textbooks meant for free distribution among school children from municipal bus stand area in Habiganj Sadar upazila.

The law enforcers also detained two vendors for selling the textbooks of National Curriculum and Textbook Board (NCTB) illegally.

The arrestees are Rasel Mia, 30, son of Amirul Mia, and Hashim Mia, 35, son of Noor Mia, of Bulla village in Lakhai upazila of the district.

A police team, acting on a tip-off,

raided the municipal bus stand area around 9:00pm and detained the two vendors from their shops.

They seized 5,000 textbooks of Class III, Class V and Class VIII from there, Officer in Charge of Habiganj Sadar Police Station Golam Kibria said.

After interrogating the detainees the real fact will come out, Habiganj Additional Superintendent of Police (ASP) SM Fazlul Haque said.

The vendors were selling the government books illegally, the ASP said, adding that they will conduct more drives against those involved in such malpractice.



Habiganj police seize a large number of primary textbooks meant for free distribution from municipal bus stand area in the town on Monday night. PHOTO: COLLECTED

'Lalmonirhat to be made beggar-free soon'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

The beggars will be rehabilitated as per their necessity and the district will be made beggar-free soon, said Social Welfare Minister Nuruzzaman Ahmed at a view exchange meeting with local journalists and civil society members at the Circuit House hall on Sunday.

"Most of the beggars in the district have already been brought under the social safety net schemes like old-age allowance, widow allowance and allowance for the disabled," the minister said, adding that Social Welfare Department will run the scheme soon.

Beggar Abdul Khaleque, 73, of Kashiram village in Kaliganj upazila said, "I get Tk 500 as old age allowance every month, but as it is

not sufficient and I am not capable of doing physical labour, so I have to beg."

Mahir Uddin, 63, of Fulgachh village in Sadar upazila, said he has been begging for the last 25 years as he is physically unfit for work.

Local people said the district is witnessing increase in the number of beggars due to poverty and lack of work opportunities for the low income group people.

According to Lalmonirhat Deputy Commissioner's (DC) office the number of beggars in the district is 3,949.

Lalmonirhat DC Shafiqul Arif said district administration and social welfare department jointly have been conducting a need-basis survey among beggars in two unions.

Two held for killing British citizen

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

A Bangladeshi-born British citizen was found dead on January 6 in front of a drug rehabilitation centre in Moulvibazar town, where he had been receiving treatment.

Police recovered the body of Jalal Uddin, 45, with several injury marks on it, from inside an ambulance parked in front of Uddipon Drug Healing Center in the upazila around 9:00pm.

Moulvibazar Model Police Station Sub-Inspector Gias Uddin conducted an operation in the town and Srimangal upazila town on Monday night and arrested two people in this connection.

The arrestees are Uddipon Rehab Center Director Suhel Miah, 36, son of Lutfur Rahman Khan, of Kaziranga (East) village under Sadar upazila, and his assistant Ripon Miah, 29, of the same area.

Jalal's family members claim that he was murdered.

His relatives said Jalal went to his uncle's house in the UK during his childhood and stayed there until last April, when he was sent back to Bangladesh by his uncle's family due to his increased addiction to drugs.

After living a normal life for the first few months in Bangladesh, he started taking drugs once again from last October, said his cousin Shahinur Abedin.

Jalal's family members admitted him to the rehabilitation centre on December 29 as his condition deteriorated, Shahinur added.

Victim's mother Ruksana Akhter said she received a phone call from the rehab authorities around 7:00pm on January 6. They told her that they admitted her son to Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital after he fell seriously ill, she said.

"Finding no one named Jalal admitted to the hospital, we went to the rehab centre and found nobody on its premises," she added.

"After thoroughly searching the whole building, we finally discovered the body inside an ambulance parked in the courtyard of the building," Ruksana said.

"It was a murder and there is no doubt as the body had numerous injury marks on it," the victim's uncle Emadul Haque said.

Resident Medical Officer of the hospital Polash Kumar Roy said he found many injury marks on the body.

bKash agent beaten dead by muggers

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

A bKash agent was beaten to death by snatchers in Mary Gopinathpur Shofipara area of Gopalganj Sadar upazila.

The deceased was identified as Md Dilu Sharif, 42, son of late Abdul Salam Sharif of Gopinathpur Shofipara village.

Along with working as a bKash agent, he ran a cosmetic and medicine shop in the area.

Quoting locals, Md Hazrat Ali, sub-inspector of Gopinath Police Outpost, said Dilu was going to his house with Tk 2 lakh in cash around 9:30pm on Monday.

When Dilu reached Gopinathpur Shofipara mosque area, a gang beat him with hammer, leaving him seriously injured and took away the money.

He was rushed to Gopalganj General Hospital and from there shifted to Khulna Medical College Hospital as his condition was serious.

There he died early yesterday, said the SI.

Md Moniruzaman, officer in charge of Gopalganj Sadar Police Station, said they are trying to identify and arrest the culprits.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Regional Controller of Food
Barishal Division, Barishal
www.food.barisaldiv.gov.bd

Memo No: 13.06.0000.013.55.002.17.92 Date: 14/01/2019

Invitation for Tender (Works)

Tender No: 01/2018-2019

- Ministry/Division : Ministry of Food.
- Agency : Directorate General of Food.
- Procuring entity name : Regional Controller of Food, Barishal.
- Procuring entity district : Barishal.
- Invitation for : **Repair of Food Godown with ancillary facilities Pathorghata LSD, Pathorghata, Barguna.**
- Invitation Ref. No. & date : **13.06.0000.013.55.002.17.92 Dated: 14/01/2019**
- Procurement method : Limited Tendering Method (LTM).
- Budget and source of funds : Government of Bangladesh (GOB).
- Tender No. : 01/2018-2019
- Tender name : **Repair of Food Godown with ancillary facilities in 3 (three) lots located throughout Pathorghata LSD, Pathorghata, Barguna.**
- Tender publication date : 14/01/2019
- Tender last selling date & time : 03/02/2019 5:00pm.
- Tender closing date & time : 04/02/2019 1:00pm.
- Tender opening date & time : 04/02/2019 3:00pm.
- Name & address of the office : Office of the Regional Controller of Food, Club Road, Barishal.

- Selling of tender documents : i) Accounts Section, Office of the Regional Controller of Food, Barishal; ii) Office of the District Controller of Food, Barguna.
- Receiving of tender document : Date 04/02/2019, Time: 9:00am to 1:00pm at (i) In the box kept in front of 1st Floor, Office of the Regional Controller of Food, Club Road, Barishal. (ii) Office of the Divisional Commissioner, Barishal. (iii) Office of the Deputy Inspector General of Police, Barishal Range, Barishal.
- Opening tender document : The tenders will be opened in the Office of the Regional Controller of Food, Barishal.
- Eligibility of tender : **Only enlisted contractor of DG Food & those who are renewed in 2018-19 Fiscal Year can participate in the tender & qualification criteria given in the tender documents.**
- Brief description of works : **Repair of Food Godown with ancillary facilities in 3 (three) lots located throughout Pathorghata LSD, Pathorghata, Barguna.**
- Brief description of related service : As per tender schedule.
- Price of tender document (Tk) : **Tk 1,500/- (one thousand five hundred) only (non-refundable).**
- Identification of lot :

Lot No.	Description/name of works	Estimated cost (Tk)	Tender security amount (Tk in lakh)	Liquid asset (Tk in lakh)	Completion time (in day)
1	Repair of Residential Building (OCLSD Quarter & Twin Darwan Quarter) at Pathorghata LSD, Barguna.	28,57,020.54	0.71	14.29	120
2	Repair of Non-residential Building (Food Godown FS-1) at Pathorghata LSD, Barguna.	28,57,095.87	0.71	14.29	120
3	Repair of others Building & Establishments (OCLSD Office, Pump House & Water Reservoir, Boundary Wall) at Pathorghata LSD, Barguna.	19,00,899.73	0.48	9.50	90

- Name of official inviting tender : Reza Mohammad Mohasin.
- Designation of official inviting tender : Regional Controller of Food, Barishal.
- Address of official inviting tender : Office of the Regional Controller of Food, Barishal.
- Contact details of official inviting tender : 0431-61012, 0431-61013
- The procuring entity reserves the right to accept any or reject all tenders.

Reza Mohammad Mohasin
Regional Controller of Food
Barishal Division, Barishal
Phone: 0431-61013
E-mail: rcf.bsl@dgfood.gov.bd

ধর্ম বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয়
মসজিদ/জামায়াত শিশু ও গণশিক্ষা কার্যক্রম
ইসলামিক ফাউন্ডেশন
নাটোর জেলা কার্যালয়
নবাব সিরাজ-উদ-দৌলা মার্কেট (২য় ও তর তলা), কাপড়িয়াপাড়া, নাটোর
স্মারক নং-১৬.০১.৬৯০০.০২৫.০৬.০৫৮.১০-৫৮ তারিখঃ ১৪/০১/২০১৯খ্রিঃ

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি
ইসলামিক ফাউন্ডেশন নাটোর জেলা কার্যালয়ের অধীনে পরিচালিত "মসজিদ/জামায়াত শিশু ও গণশিক্ষা কার্যক্রম" প্রকল্পের ২০১৮-১৯ অর্থ বছরের জমা প্রেট, চাক, বন্দপেন, ডাস্টার, ব্লাবোর্ড, সাইনবোর্ড ও সরবরাহের নিমিত্তে প্রকৃত গ্রন্থকর্তা/সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হতে মৌলিকমূল্যের ক্রয়াদেশ প্রকাশ করা হচ্ছে (বিস্তারিত তথ্য সিডিউলে)।
সিডিউল নিম্নোক্তকারী কার্যালয় ও জেলা প্রশাসকের কার্যালয়ের নেজারত শাখা হতে ১০০০/- (এক হাজার) টাকা (অফেরতযোগ্য) মূল্যে আগামী ১৭/০১/২০১৯খ্রিঃ তারিখ সকাল ৯.০০টা হতে ২৩/০১/২০১৯খ্রিঃ তারিখ বিকাল ৫.০০টা পর্যন্ত ক্রয় করা যাবে। সিডিউল আগামী ২৪/০১/২০১৯খ্রিঃ তারিখ সকাল ৯.০০টা হতে বেলা ১২.০০টা পর্যন্ত ইসলামিক ফাউন্ডেশন নাটোর অথবা জেলা প্রশাসকের কার্যালয় এর নেজারত শাখা, নাটোর-এ সংশ্লিষ্ট নির্ধারিত টেন্ডার বাস্তব জমা দিতে হবে। ইসলামিক ফাউন্ডেশন নাটোর কার্যালয়ে ঐ দিন বেলা ১২.৩০ মিনিটে মনোনীতদের উপস্থিতিতে (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) টেন্ডার বাস্তব খোলা হবে। দরপত্রের সঙ্গে উদ্ধৃত মূল্যের ২.৫% আনুমানিক (অফেরতযোগ্য) "মসজিদ/জামায়াত শিশু ও গণশিক্ষা কার্যক্রম" ইসলামিক ফাউন্ডেশন নাটোর, শিরোনামে যে কোন অফিসী ব্যাংকের ডিডি/পে-অর্ডার জমা দিতে হবে। সকল ক্ষেত্রে পি.পি.আর অনুসরণ করা হবে এবং কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিলের ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।
এ. কে. এম. মনিরুল ইসলাম
উপ-পরিচালক
ইসলামিক ফাউন্ডেশন, নাটোর

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
ভূমি মন্ত্রণালয়
ভূমি প্রশাসন প্রশিক্ষণ কেন্দ্র
৩/এ, নীলক্ষেত, কাটাবন ঢাকা
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স্মারক নং-৩১.০৪.০০০০.০০০.০৭.০০৩.২০১৯-৫৩ তারিখঃ ১৪ জানুয়ারি, ২০১৯ খ্রিষ্টাব্দ

"স্টেশনারী, স্টেশনারী (প্রিন্টিং), ইলেকট্রিক ও সেনিটারী, ক্রোকারিজ ও ডরমিটারী সামগ্রী" সরবরাহের বিজ্ঞপ্তি
ভূমি মন্ত্রণালয়ীয় ভূমি প্রশাসন প্রশিক্ষণ কেন্দ্রে স্টেশনারী, স্টেশনারী (প্রিন্টিং), ইলেকট্রিক ও সেনিটারী, ক্রোকারিজ এবং ডরমিটারী সামগ্রী সরবরাহ নেয়া হবে। সে লক্ষ্যে অগ্রহী ও অভিজ্ঞ প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হতে দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে। পত্রিকায় বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের দিন থেকে ৩১/১/২০১৯খ্রিঃ তারিখ পর্যন্ত অফিস চলাকালীন সময় নগদ ৫০০/- টাকা (অফেরতযোগ্য) মূল্যে ভূমি প্রশাসন প্রশিক্ষণ কেন্দ্র, ২য় তলায় অবস্থিত সহকারী পরিচালক (প্রশাসন) এর দপ্তর (৩/এ, নীলক্ষেত, কাটাবন ঢাকা-১২০৫) এবং ভূমি মন্ত্রণালয়ের প্রশিক্ষণ ও শৃঙ্খলা শাখা থেকে দরপত্র সিডিউল ক্রয় করা যাবে। আগামী ০৪/০২/২০১৯ তারিখ রোজ সোমবার বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত ভূমি প্রশাসন প্রশিক্ষণ কেন্দ্রের ২য় তলায় সহকারী পরিচালক (প্রশাসন) এর কক্ষের সম্মুখে রক্ষিত দরপত্র বাস্তব এবং ভূমি মন্ত্রণালয়ের প্রশিক্ষণ ও শৃঙ্খলা শাখার সামনে রক্ষিত দরপত্র বাস্তব দরপত্র জমা দেয়া যাবে। ঐদিনই বেলা ০১.৩০ ঘটিকায় ভূমি প্রশাসন প্রশিক্ষণ কেন্দ্র, ২য় তলায় সম্মেলন কক্ষে দরপত্রদাতাদের উপস্থিতিতে (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) দরপত্র খোলা হবে। বিস্তারিত তথ্য দরপত্র সিডিউলে উল্লেখ রয়েছে।
তাসলিমা মোস্তারী
সহকারী পরিচালক (প্রশাসন)
ভূমি প্রশাসন প্রশিক্ষণ কেন্দ্র, ঢাকা
ফোনঃ ৯৬৭৪৪৩১