



A scene of erosion by the Jamuna river at Mahmudnagar union in Tangail Sadar upazila.

PHOTO: STAR

TANGAIL SADAR UPAZILA Swelling Jamuna devours croplands, houses

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

The Jamuna devoured a number of dwelling houses and vast tracts of croplands in Mahmudnagar union of Tangail Sadar upazila during the last few days as the river's water level saw a rise due to onrush of water from upstream.

The worst affected villages are Kukuria, Majjhail, Keshob Majjhail, Sona Majjhail, Barbaria, Chala Bakla, and Baniapara.

Karim Sheikh, Julhash Miah, Abdul Jalil, Abu Sayeed, Sirajul Islam, Kasir Uddin Mondol, Razzak Pramanik, Abdul Khalek, Azmat Ali, Arman Hossain, Abdul Mannan, Jinnat Sarkar, Abdus Samad and Raham Ali are some of the affected people who have shifted their houses and cattle to other places.

"The river devoured my 16 bighas of land and I have already shifted my dwelling house to a safer place in bazaar area," said Karim Sheikh of Kukuria village.

Abu Sayeed of the same village said he has already lost his house as well as croplands due to the erosion and so, he built a new house at Karatia union.

At least 500 riverside families of the villages have been passing days amid fear of erosion, locals said.

The Water Development Board has been dumping geo-bags in the affected areas to check the erosion, but it is not sufficient against the need, they said.

Over 100 dwelling houses and vast tracts of croplands at the villages were devoured by the river in the last one and a half months, said Mazedur Rahman Talukder, chairman of Mahmudnagar union parishad (UP).

During the last three years, over 1000 families of the villages shifted their houses from the riverside while vast tracts of croplands, two high schools, four primary schools, a mosque, madrasa, and other structures were devoured by the river, he said.

Several hundred families in 7 No ward of the union lost all their landed properties to the river, the UP chairman said.

The local people demanded construction of a four-kilometre-long embankment from the upstream of the erosion affected Kukuria village to save the union from the dreadful erosion every year, he said.

Md Sirajul Islam, executive engineer of Water Development Board in Tangail, told The Daily Star that they have already dumped 36,000 geo-bags in 12 spurs since June 17 as an emergency step to check the erosion in the area. The flow has already moved to the west after dumping of the geo-bags, he said.

"A project is underway for conducting protection works in a 22-kilometre area along the east bank of the river in Tangail as part of a mega project to check the erosion," he added.

Purple passion fruit now grows in Naogaon

An educated farmer takes the initiative to cultivate the foreign fruit

MOSTAFA SHABUJI, back from Naogaon

The curious mind of Sohel Rana has led him to try his hand at growing the purple passion fruit at Rupgram village of Naogaon's Sapahar upazila.

The thirty-six-year old is well-known in the village as an educated, successful farmer. He first began farming in 2015, after he quit his job as an online journalist in Dhaka.

He currently has three orchards -- one spanning 16 bighas, another seven bighas and the largest that is 60 bighas -- where he grows local and foreign fruits.

He recently planted the sapling of a purple passion fruit, and the vine is already bearing more than 200 fruits. The fruit will be ready to harvest in a couple of months, hopes Rana, who completed his masters in statistics from Rajshahi University in 2009.

"I am passionate about growing unique and uncommon fruits. I want to introduce new

farming methods to our local farmers," he said, when this correspondent visited Rupgram Agro-Farm on April 26. "At this moment, I am growing 12 new types of fruits, including the purple passion fruit."

Rana got two purple passion fruit saplings last year through Md Bahadur, a Bangladeshi expatriate in Italy, who brought it into the country by following due procedure. They first met on Facebook.

"Whenever I travel to new places in Italy, I see new varieties of fruits and wish my friends and family back in Dhaka could taste them," Bahadur told The Daily Star over the phone.

He gave one of the saplings to M Enamul Haque, former director general of the Department of Agricultural Extension, who planted it on his rooftop garden. But it did not bear flowers yet. "The passion fruit is highly nutritious, rich in potassium, calcium, vitamins

and minerals," said Haque.

Sohel planted the other sapling in this orchard in the first week of May last year. "Its flowers bloomed in the last week of March. The vines are expected to bear fruit twice a year," he said.

"Farmers in the country have grown the yellow passion fruit for a long time. The purple variety is new for us," Mehedi Masood, project director of year-round fruit production for nutrition improvement project of Department of Agricultural Extension, told The Daily Star.

"I first saw the purple fruit in Vietnam. It is delicious to eat, and I am sure locals will love the taste," he added.

The purple variety has better yield than the yellow variety.

"We are planning to graft it soon and will send to farmers across the country through our horticulture centres," he said. Farmers can expect to benefit as they will get good market prices.



Sohel Rana sees purple passion fruit at his orchard at Rupgram village in Sapahar upazila of Naogaon.

PHOTO: MOSTAFA SHABUJI

BAGERHAT SADAR HOSPITAL

Doctor shortage hampers treatment

PARTHA CHAKRABORTY, Bagerhat

Patients are deprived of proper healthcare services at the 100-bed Bagerhat Sadar Hospital due to shortage of doctors.

"Now there are only 13 doctors working at the hospital while we have to provide treatment for around 500 outdoor patients, in addition to around 150 admitted patients on an average daily," said Dr Moshirul Rahman, resident medical officer (RMO) of the hospital.

"We have informed our higher authorities of the problem on several occasions. But no initiative has been taken to solve the problem," he said.

Visiting the hospital recently, the correspondent found many patients waiting to meet doctors.

"After coming here at around 9:00pm I bought ticket at an outdoor counter and they told me to go to room No 123. But I found the room locked," said Abdur Sabur, 60, a patient with respiratory diseases.

Another patient Hemayet Paik, 45, said he had come to the hospital with fever at about 10:00am. But he could not meet any doctor till 1:00pm.

Kabir Sheikh, 35, came for treatment of his son but he was preparing to return home after failing to meet any doctor.

"This is a regular picture at the hospital," said Nojir Sheikh, a



Bagerhat Sadar Hospital.

PHOTO: STAR

Missing boy found murdered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

A six-year-old boy was found murdered at Chargargari village in Ishwardi upazila yesterday.

The victim was Sohag Hossain Khan, son of Akmal Hossain Khan of the village.

OC of Ishwardi Police Station Md Bahauddin Faruki said Sohag went out of home to play with some local kids on Monday afternoon and remained missing since then.

Informed, police recovered the body from a bamboo grove in the area yesterday morning and sent it to Pabna Medical College Hospital for autopsy, said the OC, adding that the body bore injury marks.

Six rescued from traffickers BGB arrests two alleged perpetrators

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) rescued six people, including four teenage girls, from Sadipur border area under Benapole Port Police Station yesterday while they were being trafficked to India.

They also arrested two men in connection with the incident, said Lt Col Selim Reja, commanding officer (CO) of BGB 49 Battalion.

The rescued people include Sona Mia, 18, son of Halim Mia, and Sumon Mia, 19, son of Tarun Mia, and four teenage girls. The six hail from Sreemangal upazila in Moulvibazar.

Following tip, a BGB team conducted a drive in the area and rescued the six people while they were being trafficked to India, said the CO.

They also arrested two human traffickers from the spot, he said.

The arrestees are Laltu Mia, 35, son of Abder Ali, and Md Jahid, 45, son of Ershad Mia of Sadipur village under the police station.

A case was filed in this connection, said the BGB official.

সাধারণ বীমা কর্পোরেশন		
SADHARAN BIMA CORPORATION		
[রাষ্ট্রীয়খাতে একমাত্র নন-লাইফ বীমা ও পুনঃবীমা প্রতিষ্ঠান]		
৩৩, দিলকুশা বা/এ, প্রধান কার্যালয়, ঢাকা।		
Website : www.sbc.gov.bd		
তারিখ : ২৪ জুন, ২০১৯		
সূত্র নং-সারীক/প্রশাস্ত/প্রত্যক্ষ/নিরোগ/২০১৯/১৩১১		
সাধারণ বীমা কর্পোরেশনের সহকারী ব্যবস্থাপক, জুনিয়র অফিসার ও উচ্চমাত্র সহকারী ব্যবস্থাপক, জুনিয়র অফিসার পদে নিয়োগের জন্য এমসিবিউ ও লিখিত পরীক্ষা আগামী ১২ জুনই, ২০১৯ তারিখে রাজ তত্ত্বাবলী সকল ১০.০০ - ১২.০০ ঘণ্টাকা পর্যন্ত, জুনিয়র অফিসার পদে নিয়োগের জন্য এমসিবিউ ও লিখিত পরীক্ষা আগামী ১৯ জুনই, ২০১৯ তারিখে রাজ তত্ত্বাবলী সকল ১০.০০ - ১২.০০ ঘণ্টাকা পর্যন্ত এবং উচ্চমাত্র সহকারী ব্যবস্থাপক পদে নিয়োগের জন্য এমসিবিউ ও লিখিত পরীক্ষা আগামী ২৭ জুন, ২০১৯ তারিখ থেকে প্রেশেপ্রেস ডাউনলোড করে প্রিন্ট (প্রতি হলে রেজিন) করে নিয়োগের জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে। পরীক্ষার সময়কাল ও রেজিন নথি ডিপ্টি কেন্দ্র কেন্দ্র কেন্দ্র নথির পরিপন্থ হবে ১২.০০টা থেকে ১২.০০টা পর্যন্ত)।		
পদঃ সহকারী ব্যবস্থাপক (তারিখ : ১২-০৭-২০১৯ রাজ তত্ত্বাবলী; সময়ঃ সকল ১০.০০টা থেকে ১২.০০টা পর্যন্ত)		
ক্রসং নং	ক্ষেত্রের নাম	রেজ নথর অনুযায়ী ব্যবস্থাপক প্রার্থীর সংখ্যা
০১.	সামন্তুল হক খান স্কুল এন্ড কলেজ, ডেমরা, ঢাকা।	১১০০০০১ থেকে ১১০০৫৫০
০২.	ড. মাহবুবের রহমান মোস্তা কলেজ, ডেমরা, যাজাবাড়ী, ঢাকা।	১১০০৫৫১ থেকে ১১০১০২২৭
০৩.	যাজাবাড়ী আইডিয়াল স্কুল এন্ড কলেজ, যাজাবাড়ী, ঢাকা।	১১০১০২২৮ থেকে ১১০১৩২২৭
০৪.	বর্মামালা আদৰ্শ হাই স্কুল, দিনিয়া, ঢাকা।	১১০১৩২২৮ থেকে ১১০১৬২২৭
০৫.	দিনিয়া কলেজ, যাজাবাড়ী, ঢাকা-১২৩৬।	১১০১৬২২৮ থেকে ১১০২১৭২৭
০৬.	লালবাগ মডেল স্কুল এন্ড কলেজ, ৪৩/২, আরএনডি রোড, কেন্দ্রার মোড়, লালবাগ, ঢাকা-১২১১।	১১০২১৭২৮ থেকে ১১০২৪২২৭
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