

# A resolute champion of education

S DILIP ROY, Lalmonirhat

About three decades ago, Lokman Ali of Baroghariya Adarshapara village in Lalmonirhat's Aditmari upazila had lost his land and other belongings to the river Teesta, but his passion for education and literacy remained the same.

Taking shelter at a neighbour's land and doing all sorts of odd jobs, first, he educated all four of his children. Then, he launched the noble task of educating the children of his village, located in a char (sandy land) of the Teesta river in Lalmonirhat.

At 63, Lokman spends about six hours every day tutoring children, voluntarily, and another six checking on his student's performance and creating awareness about education among the villagers.

"I became interested in teaching the children of the ultra-poor families in the Teesta char, after I succeeded in providing proper education to my own children," said Lokman, who studied up to the eighth grade and could not continue his studies due to lack of educational opportunities in the region at that time.

"After getting my own children educated successfully, I realised that their education alone cannot bring any change in this char. To bring change, it is necessary to spread the light of education among all the children of the area," he said.

To date, Lokman's village in Aditmari's Mahishkhoa union does not have any school, carpeted road or electricity.

Most of the villagers depend on agriculture and the literacy and dropout rate are similar to shoal villages of Teesta, 25 percent and 40 percent, respectively, according to Lalmonirhat district primary education office.

Lokman made sure his offspring do not become part of that statistic.

In 1992, he lost his homestead, arable land and fruit orchard to Teesta's erosion. Then, his wife left him with four children and divorced him three years later, said Lokman's octogenarian mother, Nabiun Bewa, who lives with her son.



Children pose for photograph in front of the house of their voluntary teacher Lokman Ali at Baroghariya Adarshapara village in Aditmari upazila of Lalmonirhat a few days ago. Inset, Lokman Ali engrossed in imparting lessons to kids at his house.

PHOTO: S DILIP ROY

"But the series of events did not break Lokman's spirit. Instead of remarrying, he focused his attention on his children's education," she said.

His determination paid off. Today, his daughter is a college lecturer, the eldest son, a doctor in Rajshahi, the second son is studying in Dhaka to join the civil service and the youngest is an undergraduate student in Kurigram.

"We often had to go hungry for days but my father did not stop us from studying. Finally, he won in his mission because today we are all doing well in our respective fields," said Lokman's daughter Latifa Begum, lecturer of Lalmonirhat Nechhariya Kamil Madrasa.

She said her father has the option to relax and enjoy his life now as his children bear his expenses. Instead, he chose the noble task of enlightening society through education, she added.

"My children give me about Tk 3,000 per month. I spend half of it for my own living expense and save the rest to buy educational materials for the village children," said Lokman, who prefers an austere living.

Rumi Akhter Shimu, a fifth grader at Gobordhan Char Government Primary School located in another Teesta char, has been taking lessons from Lokman since Grade I.

"He loves us and teaches us well," she said, claiming that she and the other children of the char are doing better at school with Lokman's help.

Shimu's father farm labourer Abdur Rashid said Lokman never charges anything for teaching his daughter rather often helps her by providing pens and copies, as needed.

The children start to arrive at Lokman's place between 6:30am to 7:30am and take lesson till 10:00am. They come back in the afternoon around 4:00pm and studies until sunset.

Between 10:00am to 4:00pm, Lokman goes door to door talking to villagers about the importance of education and checking on the children's school performance or need for educational materials.

He runs the tutoring classes in four tin-huts built on his neighbour Abdus Sobhan's land, where he took shelter in 1992.

Headmaster of Gobordhan Char Government Primary School Kazi Shafiqul Islam said students taking lessons from Lokman were doing well in classes and exams.

"Lokman brings many dropouts back on track and he is taking care of them," he said.

Abdus Sobhan, 62, who gave the five decimal land to Lokman, is proud of his neighbour's achievement.

He said, "I own a lot of land but I didn't educate my children much. On the other hand, landless Lokman succeeded in educating all four of his children and is now working to educate others."

"Lokman is a rare example in our society. He did not build any tangible asset, rather he invested his life towards education," said Rabiul Alam, assistant professor of Mahishkhoa School and College in Aditmari.

"My dream is to educate all the children of the Teesta chars. I want to see them succeed just like my own children did," said Lokman.

"I do not believe in cessation. I have always started from the finish line and achieved success and I believe that the time to start is right now," Lokman asserted, the hope for a well-educated Teesta char area reflecting in his eyes.

## Three held over rape attempts 'Rapist' arrested in Lalmonirhat

STAR COUNTRY DESK

Three people were arrested over rape attempt charges in Mymensingh and Faridpur yesterday while another was held on charge of raping a schoolgirl in Lalmonirhat on Tuesday, report our correspondents.

Meanwhile, a stalker was jailed in Sunamganj while a youth was sent to jail in a rape case in Cox's Bazar yesterday.

In Lalmonirhat, Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested a man on charge of raping a third grader at Harinchawra village in Sadar upazila on Tuesday.

The accused is Ramjan Ali, 50, a resident of the village, said a Rab official, adding that the victim is Ramjan's neighbour.

Ramjan allegedly raped the schoolgirl luring her with chocolate in his house on May 5 and fled the scene. After the incident, a case was filed against him.

In Mymensingh, police arrested two people on charge of attempting to rape a female garment worker in Bhaluka upazila.

The arrestees are Nazmul Islam, 25, manager of MK Filling Station in Nishinda

of Bhaluka, and Nazmul Haque, 23, a worker of the filling station.

In Faridpur, the law enforcers arrested a man on charge of attempting to rape a minor girl at a village in Saltha upazila.

The accused is Akkas Matobbar, 55, a resident of the same area, said police.

In Sunamganj, a mobile court yesterday sentenced a youth to three months' imprisonment for stalking a schoolgirl in Derai upazila, reports our Moulvibazar correspondent.

The convict is Habibur Rahman, 22, a resident of Bhoragaon village in the upazila.

In Cox's Bazar, a court here yesterday sent a youth to jail in a case for raping a ninth grader in Chakaria upazila, reports our correspondent.

The accused is Abdur Rahim, 19, a resident of Chagirsha Kata area in the same upazila. He is a friend of the victim's elder brother.

The rape incident took place on September 12.

On Tuesday night, Rahim was arrested following a case filed by the victim's elder brother.

## Drug peddler to die

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj

A court here yesterday sentenced a youth to death in a drug case.

The convict is Mohammad Momin, 32, son of Saidur Rahman of Char Durlobpur-Pathalia village in Sadar upazila.

According to the prosecution, on secret information, a team of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab-5) went to Narendrapur village and arrested Momin with one kg and 100 grams of heroin on December 23 in 2017.

Police submitted charge sheet against him on January 27 in 2018.

After examining the witnesses and evidences, the judge pronounced the verdict.

## Manikganj canal: Sorrow for townspeople

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

The only canal flowing through the district town has virtually turned into a dumping station for huge garbage disposed of by the townspeople, posing serious health risk for locals.

Dumping of garbage has made the canal stagnant, turning the water body into a mosquito breeding ground, thanks to the authorities' ignorance of the matter.

Md Bellal Hossain, executive engineer of Manikganj municipality, said the canal is six-kilometre-long. The water body is started from West Bandutia and ended in Sonakandar area, where it meets the Kaliganga river.

Advocate Deepak Kumar Ghosh, a resident of Reserve Tank area in the municipality, and president of the Manikganj district unit of Ghatk Dala Nirmul Committee, said a section of local people, most of them traders, have built houses and business establishments by grabbing lands on both sides of the canal.

They have virtually turned the canal into drain, almost filled with various waste materials, posing serious health hazards for the townspeople, he said.

The canal was once a blessing for traders who used to bring goods on steamers and boats but it now remains



Land grabbers have virtually turned the canal into a clogged drain in Manikganj town.

PHOTO: STAR

a sorrow for them, said Deepak. Bimal Roy, a member (secretary) of Dhaleswari Nodi Bachao Andolan (Save the River Movement, Dhaleswari), said townspeople have been facing various health problems as the canal has become a breeding ground of mosquitoes.

Gazi Kamrul Huda Selim, mayor of the municipality, said they have undertaken a project to renovate the canal by freeing it from illegal occupants.

He has already sought cooperation from the district administration and police in this regard, said the mayor.

**Padma Oil Company Limited**  
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation)  
Strand Road, Shadarghat, Chattogram  
Ref: 28.22.0000.856.06.014.17/625 Date:15/09/2019

**2nd Corrigendum Notice**  
For  
"Installation of Jet A-1 Hydrant Feeder Pipeline and Associated Equipment at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, Dhaka, Bangladesh on Turnkey Basis"  
Tender Ref No: 28.22.0000.856.06.006.17/P-76/18-19, Date: 21/07/2019

This is for information of all concerned that following amendments of tender notice have been made:

Sl No.	Existing	Amended
18	Tender last selling date 24/09/2019 upto 12:00 Hrs	Tender last selling date 09/10/2019 upto 12:00 Hrs
19	Tender closing date and time 25/09/2019 at 02:00pm	Tender closing date and time 10/10/2019 at 02:00pm
20	Tender opening date and time 25/09/2019 at 03:00pm	Tender opening date and time 10/10/2019 at 03:00pm

All other terms and conditions of the tender document shall remain unchanged.

**Md. Aminul Haque**  
General Manager (Projects)  
For Managing Director

GD-1540

## Man kills wife

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

A housewife was killed by her husband allegedly over a family feud in Ishwarganj municipality area yesterday.

The victim, Lucky Akter, 25, was wife of Sabuj Mia of Mechera village in Tarakanda upazila.

Quoting the deceased's family members, police said Lucky, daughter of day labourer Motiur Rahman of Duttapara area, was married to Sabuj, son of Abdul Kadir, three years ago and came to visit her parents' house a few days ago.

Sabuj, a mason, who came to his in-laws house on Tuesday, locked in an altercation with Lucky yesterday morning over a trifling matter and at one stage, Sabuj stabbed her with a knife, leaving her critically injured around 7:30am.

Family members rescued Lucky and took her to Ishwarganj Upazila Health Complex where the doctors declared her dead.

Police recovered the body and sent it to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital for autopsy.

Soon after the incident, neighbours caught Sabuj while he was fleeing the area and handed him over to the police.

In primary interrogation, Sabuj admitted his involvement in the murder, police said, adding that Sabuj was later produced before a Mymensingh court yesterday afternoon that sent him to jail.

**মেরিন ক্যাডেট প্রশিক্ষণ কোর্সে ভর্তি বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

**সংশোধনী**

গত ২৩-০৮-২০১৯ খ্রি: তারিখে দৈনিক প্রথম আলো, দৈনিক ইত্তেফাক, দৈনিক বাংলাদেশ প্রতিদিন ও The Daily Star পত্রিকায় মেরিন ক্যাডেট প্রশিক্ষণ কোর্সে ভর্তি বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশিত হয়। উক্ত বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে আবেদনের যোগ্যতা: (খ) এ উল্লেখিত "ইংলিশ মিডিয়াম পাঠ্যক্রমের আওতায় পদার্থবিদ্যা ও গণিতসহ ন্যূনতম হেট বিষয় নিয়ে C গ্রেডে A Level সনদপ্রাপ্ত" এর স্থলে "ইংলিশ মিডিয়াম পাঠ্যক্রমের আওতায় পদার্থবিদ্যা ও গণিতসহ C গ্রেডে A Level সনদপ্রাপ্ত" হবে। চূড়ান্ত নির্বাচনী পদ্ধতি ধাপসমূহ: (খ) এ উল্লেখিত "ভর্তি পরীক্ষা প্রাপ্ত নম্বর ৪০%" এর স্থলে "ভর্তি পরীক্ষা পাশ নম্বর ৪০%" এবং বিশেষ নির্দেশনায় উল্লেখিত "মেরিন একাডেমী চট্টগ্রাম, পাবনা, বরিশাল, রংপুর, সিলেট ও মেরিন কিশোরিক একাডেমী, চট্টগ্রাম হতে উর্দূ ক্যাডেটগণকে বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান মেরিটাইম ইউনিভার্সিটি, বাংলাদেশ হতে অনার্স ডিগ্রী প্রদান করা হবে" এর স্থলে শুধুমাত্র মেরিন একাডেমী, চট্টগ্রাম এবং মেরিন কিশোরিক একাডেমী, চট্টগ্রাম হতে উর্দূ ক্যাডেটগণকে বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান মেরিটাইম ইউনিভার্সিটি, বাংলাদেশ হতে অনার্স ডিগ্রী প্রদান করা হবে। তবে, "মেরিন একাডেমী পাবনা, বরিশাল, রংপুর ও সিলেট পরবর্তীতে বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান মেরিটাইম ইউনিভার্সিটি, বাংলাদেশ এর অধিভুক্ত হলে ক্যাডেটদেরকে অনার্স ডিগ্রী প্রদান করা হবে। ২০২০-২১ সালের নটিক্যাল/ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং মেরিন ক্যাডেট প্রশিক্ষণ কোর্সে ভর্তি জন্য যোগ্য প্রার্থীগণ ০১-০৯-২০১৯ খ্রি: তারিখ হইতে নৌপরিবহন অধিদপ্তরের ওয়েবসাইট [www.dos.gov.bd](http://www.dos.gov.bd) এর মাধ্যমে অনলাইনে আবেদন করতে পারবে। অনলাইনের আবেদনের শেষ তারিখ ৩০-০৯-২০১৯ খ্রি:।

বিস্তারিত জানতে ভিজিট করুন [www.dos.gov.bd](http://www.dos.gov.bd)

কমডোর সৈয়দ আরিফুল ইসলাম, (ট্যাঙ্ক), এনডিসি, পিএসসি, বিএন মহাপরিচালক  
নৌপরিবহন অধিদপ্তর, ঢাকা।

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges  
Road Transport and Highways Division  
Admin Section  
[www.rthd.gov.bd](http://www.rthd.gov.bd)

Memo No. 35.00.0000.041.30.003.19-45 Date: 17/09/2019

**Invitation for Tender**

01.	Ministry/division	Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges, Road Transport and Highways Division.
02.	Procuring entity name	Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges, Road Transport and Highways Division.
03.	Procuring entity code	150-Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges.
04.	Invitation for	Annual Report 2018-2019, Annual Report Envelope Design & Printing.
05.	Procurement method	OTM.
06.	Budget and source of funds	Revenue Budget (GoB).
07.	Tender last selling date	02-10-2019
08.	Tender submission date and time	03-10-2019 2:00pm.
09.	Tender opening date and time	03-10-2019 3:00pm.
10.	Name & address of the office(s)	Address - Selling & receiving tender document Room No. 809 (8 <sup>th</sup> Floor), Bhaban No. 7, Road Transport and Highways Division, Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka. - Opening tender document Room No. 822 (8 <sup>th</sup> Floor), Bhaban No. 7, Road Transport and Highways Division, Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.
11.	Eligibility of tenderer	The tenderer should be well-experienced with valid Trade License, Income Tax Certificate, VAT Registration Certificate, Experience Certificate, Bank Solvency Certificate etc.
12.	Brief description of works	Annual Report 2018-2019, Annual Report Envelope Design & Printing.
13.	Brief description of related services	Not applicable.
14.	Price of tender document (Tk)	BD Tk. 1000.00 (one thousand) (non-refundable) as a form of Bank Draft/Pay Order from any schedule bank of Bangladesh Bank to the Joint Secretary (Admin), Road Transport and Highways Division, Dhaka.
15.	Identification of lot	Location Completion time Annual Report 2018-2019, Annual Report Envelope Design & Printing Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges, Road Transport and Highways Division, Dhaka. 14 days after award of contract.
16.	Name & designation of official inviting tender	Md Liakot Ali Khan, Assistant Secretary.
17.	Address of official inviting tender	Room No. 822/B (8 <sup>th</sup> Floor), Bhaban No. 7, Road Transport and Highways Division, Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.
18.	Contact details of official inviting tender	Tel: 9584128 Fax: 9585138 e-mail: <a href="mailto:asadmin@rthd.gov.bd">asadmin@rthd.gov.bd</a>
19.	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all or any tenders.	
20.	This invitation of tender notice will be available at the Road Transport and Highways Division website: <a href="http://www.rthd.gov.bd">www.rthd.gov.bd</a>	

**Md Liakot Ali Khan**  
Assistant Secretary  
Phone: 9584128

GD-1539