

LaLmonirhat SaL ForeSt

# Amenities elude tourists, set-ups decaying amid neglect

By Staff Reporter Lalmonirhat

The structures built to facilitate tourism at the 82-acre Sal forest in Nawdabansh village in Lalmonirhat's Hatibandha upazila have been lying unused for about five years now due to lack of necessary utility connections.

The authorities in 2015 constructed two changing rooms, one bathroom and 12 RCC concrete benches for visitors in the Sal forest under a Tk 1.80-crore project titled Bangladesh Biodiversity Conservation and Ecotourism Development, said officials of Lalmonirhat Forest Department.

According to local residents and tourists, these structures never came to any use as there was no electricity or water supply. The forest department was reluctant about getting the necessary connections, they claimed.

Mahfuz Shaju, who went for a picnic at the Sal forest with his family last month, told this correspondent how disappointed he was after arriving there.

"This is a vast forest frequented by tourists. But lack of facilities has turned it into a mere jungle," said the 44-year-old man. "There is no water or cleaning facility," Shaju vexed at the situation.

When notified about the claims, acting district forest officer in Lalmonirhat Mohammad Nurunnabi said three letters had so far been sent to the Forest Department's Dhaka office seeking nod over getting power connections. "I sent the latest one in June but they are yet to respond," he told this correspondent.

Locals alleged that substandard materials were used to build the structures and as a result, they are now decaying.



A decaying rest house at the Sal forest in Nawdabansh village under Lalmonirhat's Hatibandha upazila.

PHOTO: STAR

"Huge amount of public money was spent for the project. The Forest Department officials never took care of these structures," said Mahbubur Rahman, a 55-year-old resident of Nawdabansh.

"Tourists from different areas come here only to get frustrated. They cannot use the rooms as there is no basic facility," said Amir Hossain, 45, another resident of the village.

During a visit to the site last month, this correspondent found the structures in shambles. Chunks of plaster were coming off the walls, the water tank was not connected to the washroom.

Jahangir Alam, a guard at the forest, pointed out that there is no tube-well either in the zone, much to inconvenience of visitors.

Ashwini Kumar Basunia, chairman of Nawdabansh Union Parishad, said

that his office took all the trouble to arrange water and electricity whenever government officials or VIPs came by.

"The union parishad bears all the costs then. I engage the Gram Police members to arrange water, furniture etc and install power generator," he said.

About these claims, Lalmonirhat Forest Officer Nurunnabi said, "The project was implemented by the Dhaka office. We just supervised. I cannot make

any comment over this matter."

When contacted, Rangpur Divisional Forest Officer Motlubur Rahman said he visited the Sal forest in Lalmonirhat last week and saw how the structures were lying unused.

"We are taking up another project to turn the forest into a tourist spot. All necessary facilities will be arranged within the next six months," said the officer.



Khagdi-Sreenagar-Takerhat road in Madaripur Sadar upazila lies in an awful state for long, causing immense sufferings to passengers.

PHOTO: STAR

# 17 km road in sorry state for three years

Our Correspondent, Faridpur

Khagdi-Sreenagar-Takerhat road in Madaripur Sadar upazila lies in an awful state for three years, causing immense sufferings to passengers.

An official of Madaripur Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) said the 17-km-long road was repaired at a cost of Tk 2.70 crore in 2014-15 fiscal years.

Thousands of people, including

students of different institutions in Rajor and Shibchar upazilas, use the road to reach their destination, but the dilapidated condition of the road makes their journey extremely painful.

Especially critical patients and schoolchildren are the worst sufferers due to the bad condition of the road.

The road has become almost unfit for vehicular movement due to lack of renovation for three years, said local people.

During a recent visit, this correspondent saw a number of potholes on the road, which has become muddy in many places from Khgdi- Charnuguria-Housedi area.

Torikul Islam, 20, a student of Madaripur Technical Training Institution, said thousands of people from different villages in the two upazilas use the road every day to reach the district headquarters.

# Shela crowned

FROM PAGE 2

Miss Universe is a consortium between RIZ events and Off Track & Trilogi.

Miss Universe Bangladesh will be the brand ambassador of

Bangladesh as she will compete with participants from 130 countries in the 63rd edition of the competition proper in the USA this December.

Sushmita Sen, Bollywood actress; Tahsan

Khan, singer; actor turned politician Akbar Hossain Pathan, known popularly as Farooque; Kaniz Almas, managing director, Persona; Tootli Rahman, president, Bangladesh Heritage Craft; Rubaba Dowla, founder, Pulse Health Care; Farzana Chowdhury, managing director, Green Delta Insurance; Rafiqul Islam, managing director, Flora Bank; Dr Zareen Delawar Hussain and Athar Ali Khan, former cricketer.

# It was all planned

FROM PAGE 13

It is clear that under the leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina the country is making fast development and she is carrying out drives against social injustice and

corruption, bringing people relief.

The defeated political parties and fanatic groups are now jointly attempting to create anarchy in the country.

"There is a conspiracy against the country, the political party,

and the government," the statement read.

They said that a group of fanatics from Hefajate-Islam and Islami Oikya Parishad was trying to destroy the communal harmony by attacking the homes and temples of the

Hindu communities. At least four people were killed and more than a hundred others injured on October 20 as religious zealots clashed with police in Bhola's Borhanuddin upazila over a hate speech spread through Facebook messenger.

# Man held for raping 4th grader

FROM PAGE 2

The accused Manik Sarder, 41, is a father of two.

Police said the victim on Tuesday was going to her uncle's house around 7:00pm. On her way, Manik

intercepted her, forcibly took her to nearby place and raped her.

When the victim started screaming, locals rushed there, but Manik had already fled the scene.

The victim's father filed a case accusing Manik. Around 11:00pm, police arrested Manik from his residence, said Khondakar Mostafizur Rahman, OC Baufal police station.

Yesterday, the arrestee was produced before a court, which sent him to jail, said the OC. (Our Noakhali and Patuakhali correspondents contributed to the report.)

# Schoolgirl beaten by stalker

Our Correspondent, Moulvibazar

A schoolgirl was beaten allegedly by her stalker in Dharamapasha upazila of Sunamganj district on Tuesday afternoon.

The accused is Titu Mia, 27, son of Shamsul Mia of Sharishampur village in the upazila.

Family members said Titu used to stalk the tenth grader on her way to and from school.

He proposed her with offer of love affair different times, but she always refused him.

The girl's father recently informed Titu's family about the matter, which angered him.

On Tuesday afternoon, Titu beat the girl when she was returning home from school. Titu went onto hiding soon after the incident.

Hearing screams, locals rescued the girl and sent her to Dharamapasha Upazila Health Complex, said the victim's father.

The father said he will file a case against Titu in connection with the incident.

The schoolgirl sustained minor injuries, said Dr Shadbir Jaman, resident medical officer of the upazila health complex.

Ezazul Islam, officer-in-charge (OC) of Dharamapasha Police Station, said on information, they visited the spot.

They are yet to receive any complaint in this regard, said the OC.



**Gazipur City Corporation**  
Nagar Bhaban, Gazipur-1700  
City Governance Project (CGP), Batch-1  
Website: gcc.gov.bd

উন্নয়নের গণতন্ত্র  
শেখ হাসিনার মূলমন্ত্র

Memo No. GCC/NB/Prokou/CGP/B-2/19-20/4256 Date: 22.10.2019

## Invitation for Tenders (Works) (IFT) e-Tender Notice No-06/2019-2020 (CGP)

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following works, tender are given below.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh					
1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Co-operatives/Local Government Division.			
2	Agency	Gazipur City Corporation.			
3	Procuring entity name	Head of Engineering, Gazipur City Corporation.			
4	Procuring nature	Works.			
KEY INFORMATION					
5	Procurement method	National Open Tendering Method (NOTM).			
6	Source of funds	GOB & JICA ODA LOAN: BD-P79			
FUNDING INFORMATION					
7	Budget and source of funds	Development, JICA & GOB.			
8	Development partners	Japan International Co-operation Agency (JICA).			
PARTICULAR INFORMATION					
9	Project name	City Governance Project (CGP).			
10	Tender package No.	ICGP B2 GCC 15			
11	Schedule tender publication date & time	Date	Time		
		23.10.2019	11:00		
12	Tender documents last selling date & time	20.11.2019	17:00		
		21.11.2019	14:00		
14	Tender opening date & time	21.11.2019	14:00		
		21.11.2019	14:00		
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER					
15	Brief description of works:				
	Sub-project No.	Tender ID No.	Identification of works	Tender security amount (Tk.)	Completion time in days
	Package No-ICGP B2 GCC 15	370338	(a) Rehabilitation of RCC Road & Construction of RCC Drain from Gacha Road (Fakir Market) to Hazi Abdul Latif Primary School. Ch. 0+000 to 0+552 with link 01. Ch. 0+000-0+065 & Link 02. Ch. 0+000-0+170. (b) Improvement of BC Road from Banniyapara pucca rasta Bhandari Bazar to Narayan School bypass pucca mosque. Ch. 0+000 to 0+460 & Link 1. Ch. 0+000 to 0+480.	BDT = 9,00,000.00	270 days
16	Price of tender document (Tk.) (all)				4000.00
17	Tender validity period (all)				90 days

Procuring entity reserves the right to reject all the tenders or annul the tender proceedings.

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks branches until 17.00, 20.11.2019. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP Portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

**Md. Akbar Hossain**  
Additional Chief Engineer & PE  
Gazipur City Corporation  
Gazipur  
E-mail: [akbar.hossain96@yahoo.com](mailto:akbar.hossain96@yahoo.com)

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