The approach to Roail Bridge in Mirzapur upazila of Tangail collapsed on Thursday due to strong current amid recession of flood that also badly damaged parts of Warshi-Balia road in the upazila. | PHOTO: STAR

Communication snapped as bridge approach collapses in Mirzapur

Receding floodwater also damaged important local road in the upazila

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Tangail*

The approach road on one side of Roail Bridge in Mirzapur upazila of Tangail collapsed on Thursday, snapping direct road communication in southern areas of the upazila.

The Roads and Highways Department (RHD) completed construction of Mirzapur-Warshi-Balia road and the bridge on a canal in 2017.

Besides serving internal communication in the upazila, the road is used by long-route heavy vehicles as an alternative way to Dhaka and Manikganj districts when there is traffic congestion on Dhaka-Tangail highway.

"Floodwater was receding for the last few days, creating huge current in the canal. Soil from the south side approach of the bridge started moving away on Thursday morning and a large portion collapsed in the afternoon," said Shamsul Islam of Roail village.

Months after inauguration of the road, locals raised allegation of low-quality work, including use of poor construction materials, and a parliamentary probe body inspecting the road on March 20 in 2018 found the allegation true.

During the recent prolonged flood, a large portion of the road was submerged and it got badly damaged at several places including Postkamuri, Rajnagar, Ghugi and Roail due to strong current of floodwater.

The damage and finally the collapse of the approach road snapped movement of vehicles on the road, causing problem for several thousand people, said SM Shamsul Alam Shahid, a resident of Postkamuri village in Mirzapur.

He urged the authorities to repair the road and the bridge approach as soon as possible.

Several hired motorcycle drivers including Muktar Hossain, Mozibor Rahman and Rubel Miah said their earning from carrying passengers on the road stopped after damage of the road and the bridge.

A team of RHD officials comprising Md Mainul Hossain, additional chief engineer of Mymensingh region of RHD, superintending engineer (maintenance) Abul Kalam Azad, Md Moniruzzaman, executive engineer of RHD in Tangail, and Enamul Kabir, sub-assistant engineer of RHD in Mirzapur, visited the damaged spots on Friday.

Later, the repair work of the collapsed approach road of the bridge started on Saturday morning by dumping sandbags.

"We started temporary repair of the approach of the bridge and the damaged portions of the road for continuation of vehicular movement through the road. Permanent repair work will be done after making assessment of the damage when the flood ends," Md Moniruzzaman, executive engineer of RHD in Tangail, told The Daily Star.

The hellish road that turns travelling into nightmare

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Mymensingh*

The road that runs beside Kalsindur, a village that is home to many of the country's famed woman football players, has been in a deplorable state for years.

Especially during monsoon, about eight kilometres of the 11-kilometre road, between Ronsinghpur and Dhobaura upazila town in Mymensingh's Dhobaura upazila, turns into a nightmare for at least five thousand people who use it every day, said locals.

The road is the only means of communications for thousands of residents in Dhobaura upazila's Gamaritola and Dakkhin Maizpara unions as well as Kullagara and Gaonkandia unions in neighbouring Netrakona's Durgapur upazila, they added.

Tourists from different part of the country also use this road to visit the scenic hilly regions of Dhobaura and Durgapur upazilas, said Tahura Khatun, who plays in forward position in the women's national football team.

Although repaired four years ago, the road fell into despair within a couple of years as it was not fit for constant movement of hundreds of heavy vehicles transporting sand.

The 180-kilometre trip back home from Dhaka becomes unbearable while passing through this part of the road, said the frustrated footballer.

Another football player, Tania Akter, from Gamaritola village, is a U-14 left-back and a ninth grade student at Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protishthan.

Echoing similar views, she said it seems that no one has any responsibility to relieve people of the sufferings.

Incidents of vehicles breaking down or getting into accidents on the battered road are all too common for locals.

Mahfuzur Rahman, an undergraduate student from Ranipur village, said on way back home from Kalsindur Bazar, his brand new cell phone got damaged after it slipped out into the mud he lost control of his motorbike on the road.

Locals in need of urgent medical care risk their lives while using this dilapidated road to reach hospitals in upazila or district towns, said Minoti Rani Shil, headteacher of Kalsindur Government Primary School.

Local farmers, who rely on this road for transporting their produce to markets, are also suffering as they cannot ensure timely supply of the produce while those are fresh, she also said.

Gamaritola Union Parishad Chairman Anwar Hossain Khan said repair work of a 6-kilometre section of the vital road was approved in 2017-2018 fiscal year, but the work never started.

Contacted, Shahinur Ferdous, engineer of Local Government Engineering Department in Dhobaura upazila, said work order for repair work of a 3-kilometre-long section of the road, between Krishnapur and Kalsindur, has recently been issued and the work is supposed begin in a month.

ACC sues principal, suppliers

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against Sufian, Afsana Islam Kakoli, proprietor of Nirjhara Enterprise, and SM Nazrul Islam Natun, proprietor of Punam Trade International, for the misappropriation, confirmed Pranab Kumar Bhattacharya, ACC's Public Relations Officer.

ACC's Deputy Assistant Directors Sahidur Rahman and Ferdous Rahman filed the cases.

According to the case statement, Sufian, without following an annual procurement plan, floated tenders in two packages for medical and sports equipment, chemical reagents, furniture, computers and books on May 15, 2018.

Later, he awarded one tender to Punam Trade International on June 18 for supplying 10 Head Microscopes, 81 Binocular LED Microscopes, 5 Trinocular LED Microscopes, one Fluorescence LED Microscope (Fluorescence Attachment), one Digital Weighing Machine (for Laboratory use), one Digital Noise Meter, 31 Split Type 2 Ton Air Conditioners, 5 LED Televisions and 6 refrigerators.

In less than six days, Punam Trade International supplied all the products.

Supplier Nazrul then sent a bill of Tk 4,99,93,000 to the Medical College.

On the same day, the principal approved the bill and asked district account office to pay Punam Trade International Tk 4,49,93,700 after deduction of vat and income tax.

The actual price of these items, however, was Tk 2,35,46,000. The remaining Tk 2.14 crores was misappropriated by the accused.

Sahidur told this correspondent that the one piece binocular microscope's market price was Tk 1.85 lakh whereas it was shown to be Tk 3.25 lakh. Similarly, the prices of LED TV and A/C were shown Tk 1.65 and Tk 1.98 lakh but their actual prices were Tk 56,000 and Tk 86,000.

The actual price of a digital weighing machine is Tk 1.45 lakh but they showed it to be Tk 6.4 lakh in the document.

The price of ten head microscopes was shown Tk 1.05 crore, whereas the actual price of the medical equipment was only Tk 21.5 lakh.

"They inflated the price to misappropriate money," he said.

At the same time, Sufian gave the tender for supplying books and journals to Nirjhara Enterprise.

"The price of books was also inflated. And they misappropriated Tk 1.29 crore," said ACC Deputy Assistant Director Ferdous.

The correspondent tried to reach Sufian for his comment over phone but failed.

Meanwhile, the ACC yesterday filed two separate cases against Project Director of Bangladesh Railway Ramzan Ali and his wife Dilruba Parvin Elora for amassing about Tk 4.28 crore beyond the known source of income.

ACC's Deputy Director Abu Bakar Siddiqui filed the cases against them.

In the enquiry, it was found that Ramzan amassed around Tk 2.70 crore legally.

"Meanwhile, he amassed Tk 2.43 crore through bribes and corrupt practices," reads the FIR.

On the other hand, his wife has amassed Tk 2.48 crore from September 24, 2007 to June 30, 2019.

Of these, about Tk 1.85 crore was amassed beyond the known source of income, said the first information report.

The Dhaleshwari river devours its bank at Ashapur village under Singjuri union in Manikganj's Ghior upazila. The photo was taken on Friday. | PHOTO: STAR

LAND DISPUTE

12 sued for killing man

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Pirojpur*

Twelve people were sued on Saturday for killing a man allegedly over a land dispute in Sadar upazila on Thursday.

According to the case statement, deceased Mizanur Rahman Sheikh, 48, of Chalpukhuria village, had an altercation with Razzak Bepary, a member of Kalakhali Union Parishad, over planting paddy saplings at a disputed on Thursday.

At one stage, Razzak and his men attacked Mizan and his supporters with sharp weapons, leaving seven people including Mizan injured.

Later, injured Mizan died at Khulna Medical College Hospital the same night.

AI helps Japanese recall war days

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student who gave Hamai the colorized photo as a present three years ago.

Niwata, 18, said she hopes it will bring attention to her project with a Tokyo University professor to painstakingly colorize photos using artificial intelligence and their own research to spark lost memories for the rapidly aging generation who experienced the war.

"Seeing Niwata share the colorized pictures with Hamai, and then watching him recall his old memories one after another, made it feel like the ice around his frozen memories was melting away," said Hidenori Watanave, the professor who taught Niwata how to colorize monochrome pictures using AI.

Niwata and Watanave call their photo colorization project "Rebooting Memories," and they published a book last month of the colorized versions of about 350 monochrome pictures taken before, during and after the war.

Bangladeshis stuck

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and tourists would also come home around 4:00pm Tuesday, she said by phone.

Officials concerned at the foreign and expatriates' welfare ministries said the Bangladeshis had been stranded there for weeks and were desperate to return home.

"For now, the government is paying their airfare. The recruiting agencies that sent the jobseekers to Vietnam will reimburse the money later," an official at the expatriates' welfare and overseas employment ministry told The Daily Star.

Several groups of Bangladeshis travelled from Ho Chi Min City to Vietnam's capital Hanoi since early July and protested the exploitation against their Vietnamese employers and Bangladeshi brokers. They demanded immediate repatriation.

However, as international flights have been suspended due to the coronavirus pandemic, there was no way to repatriate them immediately, officials said.

Bangladesh embassy in Hanoi in cooperation with Vietnam police accommodated nearly 100 of them in several hotels. Later, on August 4, the embassy issued a circular that other Bangladeshis who went to Vietnam for jobs, had cards issued by the Bureau of Manpower Employment and Training (BMET) and were willing to return home could register.

Following that, some 50 other Bangladeshis registered with the Bangladesh embassy for returning home. Eventually, the embassy charted the US-Bangla flight for sending them home.

Shital Chandra Sarker, one of the defrauded Bangladeshis in Vietnam, said they were grateful to the Bangladesh embassy in Hanoi for arranging their repatriation.

"We had to pay Tk 4 to 5 lakh to come here, but the agents exploited us. They did not provide us with proper jobs or salaries. We were extremely vulnerable in that situation," he told The Daily Star by phone yesterday.

"It's a great relief for us that we can finally return home," Shital said.

58 clinics

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of them were lacking necessary manpower.

Several managing directors of the temporarily closed diagnostic centres said they could not renew their documents as the renewal process remained suspended for the last few months due to coronavirus pandemic.

Heavy rain

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over Northwest Bay and adjoining North Odisha-Gangetic West Bengal coast now lies over Jharkhand and adjoining Gangetic West Bengal area, he added.

He said monsoon is active over Bangladesh and strong over the North Bay.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Jail Superintendent
Sirajganj District Jail
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Reference No. 58.04.8800.135.04.004.20-২০৭০ Date: 16-08-2020

e-Tender Notice

e-Tenders are invited in e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) by The Jail Superintendent, District Jail, Sirajganj for the Procurement of:

Tender ID No.	Reference No.	Description of works	Type, Method	Publishing date & time	Last selling date & time	Closing date & time	Opening date & time
Tender ID-484709	egp-01 (OTM)/jail/ sirajganj/ 20-21	Supplying Best Quality Moshur Dal (Mota) for District Jail at Sirajganj.	NCT, OTM	16/08/2020 09:00	06/09/2020 17:00	07/09/2020 13:00	07/09/2020 13:00
Tender ID-484713	egp-02 (OTM)/jail/ sirajganj/ 20-21	Supplying Best Quality Chhola Dal for District Jail at Sirajganj.	NCT, OTM	16/08/2020 09:00	06/09/2020 17:00	07/09/2020 13:00	07/09/2020 13:00

This is an online tender where only e-Tenders will be accepted in National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.

To submit e-Tender registration in 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 deposited online through any schedule bank.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP held desk (helpdesk@procure.gov.bd).

AL-Mamun
Jail Superintendent
District Jail, Sirajganj

GD-1263

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
Education Engineering Department
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ee_bog@eedmoe.gov.bd

e-Tender Notice No. 01/EE/EED/bog/2020-21/NF=12 & 4931 = 02 Lots Date: 16.08.2020

e-Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of stated below:

Tender ID	Description of work	Last selling date & time	Closing date & time	Fees for tender documents
483299	Manufacturing & Supplying New Furniture at Khadull Shapa Secondary School Dhunat Bogura.	1.9.2020 15:00	2.9.2020 11:00	2.9.2020 10:30
483344	Manufacturing & Supplying New Furniture at MPST High School Dhunat Bogura.	1.9.2020 15:00	2.9.2020 11:10	2.9.2020 10:30
483352	Manufacturing & Supplying New Furniture at Belgari M.S Technical and B.M College Shibgonj Bogura.	1.9.2020 15:00	2.9.2020 11:20	2.9.2020 10:30
483412	Manufacturing & Supplying New Furniture at Belgari Meer Shahe Alam Girls High School, Shibgonj Bogura.	1.9.2020 15:00	2.9.2020 11:30	2.9.2020 11:00
483427	Manufacturing & Supplying New Furniture at Bihigram A.D.U Central Fazil Degree Madrasha Shajahanpur Bogura.	1.9.2020 15:00	2.9.2020 11:40	2.9.2020 11:00
483443	Manufacturing & Supplying New Furniture at Domonpukur Kamil Madrasha Shajahanpur Bogura.	1.9.2020 15:00	2.9.2020 11:50	2.9.2020 11:00
483450	Manufacturing & Supplying New Furniture at Khihali Darusalam Dakhil Madrasha Dupchacia Bogura.	1.9.2020 15:00	2.9.2020 12:00	2.9.2020 11:30
483460	Manufacturing & Supplying New Furniture at Kazipara Baytush Sharif Dakhil Madrasha Kahaloo Bogura.	1.9.2020 15:00	2.9.2020 12:10	2.9.2020 11:30
483465	Manufacturing & Supplying New Furniture at Kahaloo Siddiqia Madrasha Kahaloo Bogura.	1.9.2020 15:00	2.9.2020 12:20	2.9.2020 11:30
483466	Manufacturing & Supplying New Furniture at Shuvopara Darul Ulum Madrasha Gabtoli Bogura.	1.9.2020 15:00	2.9.2020 12:30	2.9.2020 12.00
483467	Manufacturing & Supplying New Furniture at Karamji Majidia Fazil Degree Madrasha Dupchacia Bogura.	1.9.2020 15:00	2.9.2020 12:40	2.9.2020 12.00
483473	Manufacturing & Supplying New Furniture at Durgahata Darul Ulum Fazil Madrasha Gabtoli Bogura.	1.9.2020 15:00	2.9.2020 12:50	2.9.2020 12.00
479751	Repair and Renovation works of Begum Rokeya Hall at Azizul Haque Govt College Sadar Bogura.	1.9.2020 15:00	2.9.2020 13:00	2.9.2020 12.30
479753	Repair and Renovation works of Fokruddin Ahmed Hall at Azizul Haque Govt College Sadar Bogura.	1.9.2020 15:00	2.9.2020 13:10	2.9.2020 12.30

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