



Water hyacinth stretches out as far as the eye can see on the Gaznaar Beel in Pabna's Sujanagar upazila.

PHOTO: STAR

Water hyacinth clogs Gaznaar Beel, hampering cultivation

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Local farmers at Gaznaar Beel, one of the biggest water bodies in the district, are yet to start cultivation in the vast lands of the water body as it is clogged with water hyacinth.

The growers in the area mainly cultivate onion every year this time but they are yet to start making seedbeds in the wet land all because of water hyacinth.

There are 10 thousand hectares of cultivable land in Gaznaar Beel, but farmers are yet to start cultivation in half of the lands even after receding of floodwater. They actually cannot bring the land for cultivation due to excessive presence of water hyacinth in the water body.

Md Babu Sardar, a farmer of Rai Shimul village in Sujanagar upazila, said he has five bighas of cultivable land in Raishimul area of Gaznaar Beel, but due to the prolonged floods this year, the water body became blocked with water hyacinths.

The floodwater receded from the field last month but he is yet to prepare his field for onion cultivation, said the grower.

"I have to cultivate onion saplings next month, but I can't make seedbeds for the presence of huge water hyacinth in the water body," said Babu.

Md Abdul Aziz, another farmer of the village, however, said at least 15 labourers are needed to remove water hyacinth from each bigha for bringing the land for cultivation.

"We need minimum six to seven thousand taka for preparing the field for cultivation by removing water hyacinth," he said.

He added that huge cultivated lands in the beel are yet to be prepared for cultivation ahead of the onion season due to shortage of workers and fund crisis. Many farmers may fail to begin cultivation in proper time for the massive presence of water hyacinth in the water body.

Upazila agriculture officer Md Moynul Haque Sarker said there are over 10 thousand hectares of cultivable land in Gaznaar Beel of Sujanagar. Of them, half of the lands are covered with water hyacinth due to this year's prolonged floods, which caused massive waterlogging.

Due to the massive waterlogging, the fields in the beel has been filled with water hyacinth, he said.

The officer further added that apart from this, fishermen have set up illegal bamboo enclosures at different points in Gaznaar Beel, blocking the natural flow of water. It later caused massive waterlogging.

As about eight thousand hectares of land are submerged under water for five to six months ever year, the crop cultivation in Aman season and winter season are badly hampered in the Gaznaar beel of Pabna's Sujanagar upazila.

So, the farmers of the wetland wait for onion cultivation but the water hyacinth has brought woes for the farmers this year, said agriculture officer.

River dredging sparks protest

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

River dredging by Water Development Board (WDB) has sparked protest in Bhuapur upazila.

WDB started dredging the Jamuna to prevent erosion in the upazila. Besides, preparations to construct an embankment on the riverbank are going on.

However, the char people at a rally on the premises of Jungipur Rulipara High School in the upazila on November 24 alleged that the dredging is going on the private lands destroying crops.

Meanwhile, people of Char Gabsara mouza formed a human chain in front of the deputy commissioner's office in the district town on Wednesday in this regard.

They also submitted a memorandum to the Secretary of the Ministry of Water Resources through Deputy Commissioner Md Ataul Gani demanding to stop the 'unplanned dredging'.

Speakers at the rally said they are not against the river dredging, but the authority should excavate a simple line in the main stream



of the river. However, the WDB is gradually shifting from Jamalpur edge to the left in a few kilometres curved and arranging dredging targeting the crop char named Kayemi Char.

They added that hundreds of farmers in the char areas will be affected financially by the unplanned dredging. They have already planted different crops including paddy, peanut, watermelon and wheat on hundreds of acres of lands on the char.

The speakers also threatened to launch a tougher movement if their demand is not met.

Preparations are going on for dredging to protect the navigability of Jamuna under the River Bank Protection Project of WDB, said an official of WDB, adding that excavation of six and a half kilometers at Bashuria part of Sarishabari upazila in Jamalpur part has already been completed.

Now about 9.5km of river will be excavated in Tangail section from Char Sunamui of Gopalpur

part of Jamuna to Bangabandhu Bridge of Bhuapur in the south by June next year at a cost of Tk 210 crore.

The task force of the WDB conducted an on-the-spot survey in this regard and made the alignment. The excavation will be done as per the design and line of alignment.

Sirajul Islam, executive engineer of WDB in Tangail, said the river will be excavated as per the alignment done by the task force team of the WDB after conducting survey three years ago. There were no crops in the char areas at that time.

The excavation will be done as required to keep the normal course of the river flowing, he said.

Meanwhile, State Minister for Water Resources Zahid Farooq has visited the site in Arjuna area of Bhuapur on Thursday.

Several projects are being implemented in the area for the development of the people, he said, adding that WDB will dredge in the government land.

Those whose lands will be acquired for dredging will get compensation, said the minister.



WDB dredges the Jamuna in Bhuapur upazila. Above, people of Char Gabsara mouza at a human chain in front of the deputy commissioner's office in Tangail on Wednesday demanded to stop the 'unplanned dredging.'

PHOTO: STAR



PHOTO: COURTESY

Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) Distressed Children & Infants International (DCI) and Rights and Sight for Children (RSC) jointly distributed necessary foods items among 805 temporarily jobless people living under Koimari union in Nilphamari's Jaldhaka upazila on Thursday. Under the 'Sun Child Sponsorship Program' 161 families will get such food assistance in every 15 days till December 31 this year.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
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স্বাস্থ্য অধিদপ্তর, মহাখালী, ঢাকা।

সংশোধিত বিজ্ঞাপন

Standard format for Advertising Expressions of Interest (EOI) for Services শিরোনামে EOI Ref No: DGHS/DC/Mal/Admin/2020 4370. Date: November 25, 2020 আগস্টে গত ২৭ শে নভেম্বর ২০২০ ইং তারিখ সৈনিক প্রথম আলো, সৈনিক বাংলাদেশ প্রতিদিন ও The Daily Star পত্রিকায় প্রকাশিত হয়। উক্ত প্রকাশিত Standard format for Advertising Expressions of Interest (EOI) for Services-এ Opening and Closing Date ভুল হওয়ায় নিম্নোল্লিখিত ছকে সংশোধন করা হলো।

	প্রকাশিত ভুল তারিখ	সংশোধিত তারিখ
EOI Closing date	November 09, 2020	December 09, 2020
EOI Opening date	November 10, 2020	.December 10, 2020

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GD- 1895

Panchagarh free day today

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

People of Panchagarh got the taste of freedom on this day in 1971, 18 days before the nation's final victory against the Pakistani occupation forces.

People of Panchagarh will observe different programmes today, marking the day.

On this day in 1971, valiant freedom fighters hoisted the flag of independent Bangladesh in Panchagarh town by defeating the Pakistan occupation forces.

The district administration and Muktijoddha Sangsad, district unit, have jointly taken up a number of programmes, including placing floral wreaths at the portrait of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at the circuit house compound in the town and martyrs' memorial and a mass grave in Thakurgaon municipality, followed by a discussion at district's Central Shaheed Minar premises.

In the face of joint attack by the freedom fighters and allied forces the previous night, the Pakistani occupation forces retreated from the district town and took shelter at Saidpur Cantonment on November 28 night.

Freedom fighters entered the town on November 29 morning.

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ব্যাংকার্স সিলেকশন কমিটি সচিবালয়
প্রধান কার্যালয়
মতিঝিল, ঢাকা-১০০০

১৩ অগ্রহায়ণ ১৪২৭
তারিখঃ ২৮ নভেম্বর ২০২০

৭টি ব্যাংক ও আর্থিক প্রতিষ্ঠানে 'সিনিয়র অফিসার' (২০১৮ সাল ভিত্তিক) এর ৭৭১টি শূন্য পদে সমন্বিত নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে অনুষ্ঠিতব্য MCQ Test স্থগিতকরণ প্রসঙ্গে

ব্যাংকার্স সিলেকশন কমিটি সচিবালয়ের তত্ত্বাবধানে ৭টি ব্যাংক ও আর্থিক প্রতিষ্ঠানে 'সিনিয়র অফিসার' (২০১৮ সাল ভিত্তিক) এর ৭৭১টি পদে নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে আগামী ০৫/১২/২০২০ তারিখে অনুষ্ঠিতব্য MCQ Test অনিবার্য কারণবশতঃ স্থগিত করা হলো।

MCQ Test গ্রহণের পরিবর্তিত সময়সূচি ও পরীক্ষা কেন্দ্র সংক্রান্ত বিজ্ঞপ্তি বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংকের ওয়েবসাইট এবং জাতীয় দৈনিক পত্রিকার মাধ্যমে পরবর্তীতে প্রকাশ করা হবে।

জিসিপিঃ ৪৮/২০২০-০৪
তারিখঃ ২৮-১১-২০২০

স্বাক্ষরিত/-
আরিফ হোসেন খান
মহাব্যবস্থাপক, বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক
ও
সদস্য-সচিব, বিএসসি

ব্যাংকিং ও আর্থিক সেবা পেতে হয়রানির শিকার হলে কিংবা কোনো অভিযোগ থাকলে ১৬২৩৬ নম্বরে ফোন করুন।

জিডি-১৮৯৬