

## Who'll clean it up?

No one ready to take responsibility of garbage heaped on Dhaka-Ctg highway

KHALID BIN NAZRUL, Cumilla

Garbage has been dumped unabated right beside Dhaka-Chattogram highway at Nazirabazar in Cumilla for years with no authorities taking care of the issue.

People from Nazirabazar and adjacent villages pile all sorts of waste there under the open sky, causing public nuisance. The spot stretching around 200 metres emits hard-to-tolerate smell round the clock.

Locals said around 3,000 families live in the village under Burichang upazila. As the area is located near Mainamati tourist zone, many new settlers have started residing there, they said.

"People from miles away come here to dump garbage. Many highway restaurant operators do the same," said Anwar Hossain, a youth from Nazirabazar.

"Such dumping for around four years has brought us extreme level of sufferings. We want an end to this," he added.

A local high school teacher Rafikul Islam said, "Many of our villagers are suffering from different types of diseases as we have to breathe the stinky air."

"People of all ages are at risks of being infected with respiratory, lung and mosquito-borne diseases," said Dr Mir Hossain Mithu, Burichang upazila health officer.

In a recent visit, this correspondent has found not only garbage but also bodies of dead animals dumped beside the highway.

Passers-by were covering their noses to get rid of putrid stench.

Although the Department of Environment has asked the local union parishad to remove the garbage, no action was taken yet.

Contacted, Runaet Amin Reza, assistant director of DoE in Cumilla, said, "We have already sent a letter to the Mainamati Union Parishad chairman around one month ago for keeping the area clean. If we observe that no progress is made, we will talk to our senior officials for the next course of action."

In response, Mainamati UP Chairman Lalon Haider said, "There is no doubt that the situation is worsening day by day. But we don't get any logistic facility from the government for proper garbage management."

Burichang Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Sabina Yesmin said, in an area like Nazirabazar, individuals are basically responsible for managing their respective garbage. Besides, the union parishad cannot avoid accountability to ensure it.

The UP chairman said, "We have no place where we can relocate such a big amount of waste."

UNO Sabina Yesmin said, "We are looking into how can we provide the local administration with a piece of khas land for a designated dumping spot."



Ignoring the public toilet with an unoccupied stall right next to him, a man chooses to urinate on the footpath. When it comes to bringing behavioral change, raising awareness is just as important as having the means to facilitate it. The photo was taken recently near Dhaka University's Jagannath Hall.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

## Girl tries to take her own life after rape

Family files case

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenaidah

A 38-year-old man raped a 16-year-old girl in Kaliganj upazila of Jhenaidah on Thursday evening, according to a case filed by her family members.

She is receiving treatment at a health centre, after she ingested pesticide in an attempt to take her own life, they added. Her family filed a case with Kaliganj Police Station on Friday but police are yet to arrest the accused.

Quoting family members, police said the girl was on her way home from a relative's house on Thursday when one Jugal Biswas forcibly took her to an irrigation pump room and raped her. Jugal, caretaker of the pump, fled afterwards.

Kaliganj Police Station OC Mahfuzur Rahman said efforts are on to arrest Jugal.

## Worker dies after fall from building

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A construction worker died after falling from an under-construction building in Dhaka's Banasree area yesterday.

Deceased Rakib Hossain (24) lost balance and fell from the 12th floor of a 14-storey building while he was spraying water around 9am, said his coworker Md Sharif.

With critical injuries, he was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where doctors declared him dead around 10am. The body was sent to hospital morgue for autopsy.

## Teenager found dead in Mymensingh

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

A teenage boy was found dead in Tarakanda in Mymensingh yesterday morning.

Police said miscreants might have strangled Siam Hossain (13) and took away his battery-run rickshaw.

Law enforcers recovered the body from Tarakanda-Phulpur road in Kakni area after locals informed them.

Abul Khayer, officer-in-charge of Tarakanda Police Station, said several injury marks were found in different parts of the body, including neck.

No case was filed and none was arrested till writing of this report yesterday. Police are investigating the incident to bring the culprits to book, the OC said.

The body was sent to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy.

## List ready

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virtual meetings with the health ministry and department to vaccinate people in the division. I have instructed 10 districts of the division to keep the ILRs ready."

"Preparations have already been completed and a list of those who will be vaccinated [in the first phase] has also been

prepared. We have done everything we need to do in order to reach people in a short period of time," she said.

The health department has issued an order of 5.88 lakh vaccines for the division's 10 districts, according to sources. Till now, 25,488 people have been infected with Covid-19 and 451 have died in the division.

## Monthly

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The government's top six social safety net programmes according to allocation in current fiscal are pension for retired government employees and their families, savings certificate interest assistance (social security part), rural infrastructure development, secondary and higher secondary stipend, food-friendly programme, and honorarium for Freedom Fighters, she said.

In her presentation on "Covid-19: A Discussion on Ensuring Social Protection and Health Rights", Nazreen said political viewpoints and programme designs of social protection in Bangladesh have gradually evolved from a poor-relief approach in the 1970s to a safety net approach in the late 1990s and finally to a lifecycle framework in 2015 with the adoption of the National Social Security Strategy.

On health concerns, she said the pandemic has exposed weaknesses of

the country's healthcare system that was poorly equipped to handle the Covid-19 healthcare needs.

The poor and vulnerable faced severe income constraints to afford healthcare as out-of-pocket expenses for healthcare is very high, she said.

Nazreen suggested that the government develop a recipient database with a mechanism to update on a regular interval and improve technology literacy of local government officials, so that they can efficiently participate in recipient database development and updating.

She said urban poor should be included in the recipient database so that they can be covered by social protection, and the delivery system should efficient and monitoring system effective.

Mafdul Islam, chief of General Economic Division of the Planning Commission, among others, spoke at the seminar.



The amount of garbage is increasing day by day on this spot beside Dhaka-Chattogram highway in Cumilla. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: STAR

## Promote traditional

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As women and the young girls are the key managers of household water resources, they should have access to water-related decision making, she added.

Ibrahim Khalil Al-Zayad, general assembly member of ActionAid International Bangladesh Society; Dr Bushra Nishat, Environmental Specialist, World Bank; Dr Vanh Mixap, Business Innovation Program Lead at Melbourne Water; and Prof Dr Imtiaz Ahmed of International Relations at DU; were also present during the closing session.

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যোগাযোগঃ

01711-402668, 01711-274924 GD-24



PHOTO: COLLECTED

Runu Veronica Costa, the first recipient of the Covid-19 vaccine in Bangladesh, was recognised for her courage at a ceremony held at United Hospital yesterday. At the programme, the hospital's MD and CEO Mohammad Faizur Rahman, Chief Consultant Cardiac Surgery Dr Jahangir Kabir, and Senior Consultant Cardiac Anaesthesia Dr Shahid Ahmad Chowdhury applauded Runu and reminisced her time at the hospital, which was her first workplace. The programme was also attended by Dr Shagufa Anwar, Director of Communication and Business Development, along with senior management personnel, doctors, nurses, and other members of staff of the hospital.

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## Human rights

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the occasion of distributing awards among the winners in an essay competition on "Bangabandhu and Human Rights".

More than 52,000 students of ninth to 12th grades from across the country participated in the competition, a law ministry press release said.

Anisul Huq said Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman grew up with philanthropic and humane mindsets and qualities. Bangabandhu's heart cried in the sorrow and plights of people, and no one ever returned empty handed after turning to him for help, the minister said.

He said the main spirit of Bangabandhu's ideology are to establish people's own rights and good governance and removal of poverty by abolishing discrimination.

JS Speaker Dr Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury joined the event as chief guest at the event, which was presided over by NHRC Chairperson Nasima Begum.

## Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Principal  
Barguna Polytechnic Institute  
Barguna

Memo No. BGPI/TENDER-1/2020-21/8738,

Date: 27-01-2021

### e-Tender Notice: BGPI/2020-21/01

e-Tender will be invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for procurement of

Tender ID No.	Package No.	Description	Online notice publication date	Online tender closing date
540957	BGPI/e-GP/2020-21/GD-01	Procurement of Engineering Machinery.	31-Jan-2021	15-Feb-2021
541524	BGPI/e-GP/2020-21/GD-02	Procurement of RAW Material and Spare.	31-Jan-2021	15-Feb-2021
541455	BGPI/e-GP/2020-21/GD-03	Procurement of Computer Accessories.	31-Jan-2021	15-Feb-2021
541372	BGPI/e-GP/2020-21/GD-04	Procurement of Educational Aid.	31-Jan-2021	15-Feb-2021
541264	BGPI/e-GP/2020-21/GD-05	Procurement of Books & Magazine.	31-Jan-2021	15-Feb-2021
541223	BGPI/e-GP/2020-21/GD-06	Procurement of Stationery.	31-Jan-2021	15-Feb-2021
541422	BGPI/e-GP/2020-21/GD-07	Procurement of Office Equipment.	31-Jan-2021	15-Feb-2021
540958	BGPI/e-GP/2020-21/GD-08	Procurement of Sports Item.	31-Jan-2021	15-Feb-2021
541392	BGPI/e-GP/2020-21/GD-09	Procurement of Furniture.	31-Jan-2021	15-Feb-2021

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 last selling/downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks branches up to **14-Feb-2021, 16:00pm**.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd), +8809609112233, +8801762625528).

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GD-203