



While unauthorised dredging continues unabated in the Kaliganga river, its bank in Joynagar area under Manikganj municipality keeps on eroding away. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: ZAHANGIR SHAH

Illegal dredging blamed for Kaliganga erosion

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

Locals in Joynagar area of Manikganj municipality are speculating that the unusual erosion of hundreds of bighas of croplands in the area along the Kaliganga river is a result of illegal and indiscriminate dredging in the river by unscrupulous sand traders.

As the illegal sand lifting continues without any action from law enforcers or the administration for long, nearby Beutha bridge on the river, hundreds of houses and croplands in a larger area are now under erosion threat, they said.

The 'Balu Mohal O Mati Babosthaponia Ain (Sand Fields and Soil Management Act), 2010' prohibits the extraction of sand or soil within one kilometre of a bridge, culvert, dam, barrage, embankment, road, highway, forestland, rail track, and other important government and non-government establishments or residential areas.

As the illegal sand lifting continues without any action from law enforcers or the administration, nearby Beutha bridge on the river, hundreds of houses and croplands are now under erosion threat.

While the illegal sand extraction continues, Joynagar and its adjacent areas -- Andharamanik, Char Beutha, Bandutia and Pauli -- have been witnessing severe erosion of the river.

Aside from Joynagar, the densely populated area between Beutha bridge and Tara bridge is also within close proximity of the illegal sand extraction site.

Although the authorities concerned had been informed multiple times of the illegal activities that had been putting public and private properties at risk for years, they never took any action, alleged locals, adding that the dredger operators even issued threats on anyone who had dared to raise objection against the unauthorised dredging in the river.

Requesting anonymity, a number of locals alleged that influential activists of the political party in power have been causing damage to the area and the river for their personal gains.

Since many locals faced repercussions before, no one nowadays dares to protest or even talk to journalists regarding the unlawful activities, they also said.

On behalf of the locals, Manikganj town Mayor Ramzan Ali on July 7 petitioned the Manikganj Deputy Commissioner to stop the dredging in the Kaliganga river and build embankments on its banks to save the area from erosion.

Many important structures and establishments including Beutha bridge, Joynagar Government Primary School, Joynagar High School, Municipal Water Pump, Dr Joseph Memorial Hospital and various businesses including a good number of restaurants along the river bank -- in Joynagar, Andharamanik, Char Beutha and Pauli areas under Manikganj municipality -- are now under erosion threat due to the lifting of sand from the river.

Unless the sand extraction is stopped urgently, the establishments as well as properties and livelihoods of 25,000 residents of these areas will be lost to the river, he also said in the petition.

Contacted, the newly appointed Deputy Commissioner in Manikganj Muhammad Abdul Latif said no one can do dredging in the river by harming the area and violating the law. "I've already instructed the upazila nirbahi officer to do what is necessary in the public interest."

Students' bridge on Chitra river connects 7 villages in Jhenidah

AZIBOR RAHMAN

Recently an association of college and university Student based in Kaliganj upazila has built a wooden bridge voluntarily over the Chitra river for the greater benefit of the villagers and students.

A total of 45 students of College and University Students' Association (CUSA) at Ekartpur, Gayashpur and Debrajpur villages have built the bridge for two months at their sweet will.

Rabiul Islam Toha, secretary of the association, said that considering the misery and sufferings of the commuters, villagers and students they formed an association with 45 interested students titled 'CUSA'.

They collected around 500 bamboos and Tk 70,000 from the nearby villagers, service holders and businessmen in order to build the bridge.

The length of the bridge is 283 feet and its breadth is 6 feet. It has become possible for the pandemic because all the students of university and colleges are staying at home due to Covid-19, he said.

He added that the commuters, villagers and students had to cross more than five kilometers additional road due to the want of this bridge. They are now happy for the ease of movement over the river.

The bridge, which is west facing, has connected seven villages on both the side of the river.

Gayashpur, Parkhirda, Shatbaria, and Bashundhara are on the East side of the river while Ekartpur, Jatarpara and Debrajpur are on West side.



The bamboo and wooden bridge has connected seven villages in Kaliganj upazila of Jhenidah easing the movement of the villagers.

PHOTO: AZIBOR RAHMAN

Ekartpur Secondary School is at the West side of the bridge while Shatbaria Hukkul Huda madrasa is located at the East side.

Ekartpur Secondary School teacher Md Hafizur Rahman said, "We have been greatly benefited from the bridge. The farmers are now able to carry their vegetable to Shatbaria market. Besides, the bridge has facilitated the movement of 150 students of the school and madrasa."

A village doctor Hafizur Rahman Hafiz of Debrajpur village said that this bridge has developed a friendship among the villagers. Now the local bazar is buzzing with crowd.

Female patients have also able to consult with the local doctors for the building of the bridge thanks to the initiative of the students.

Raigram UP chairman Ali Hossain Apu said that the students deserve praise for building this bridge. All sections of people including farmers, and students including are highly glad for the noble initiative of the students.

Set on fire by husband, woman dies from burns

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A housewife, who was set afire by her husband allegedly over a family feud in Joypurhat's Khetlal upazila, died at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) on Friday after 11 days of the brutal incident.

The deceased, Monjila Khatun, 28, was daughter of Abdus Sabur of Baniyapara village in Joypurhat Sadar upazila.

Meanwhile, following a case filed by the victim's father, police arrested Monjila's husband Sharful Islam, 35, son of Rafiqul Islam of Boar village in Khetlal upazila.

Later, police produced the arrestee before a court that sent him to jail.

According to the case statement and neighbours, the couple almost regularly used to quarrel with each other over family issues since their marriage five years back.

On July 26, they locked in an altercation

over a trivial matter, and, at one stage, angry Sharful poured kerosene on Monjila and set her on fire, before fleeing the spot.

Hearing his cry for help, people nearby rushed to the house, rescued burnt Monjila in critical condition and rushed her to the burn unit at Bogura Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Medical College Hospital.

But, doctors at the hospital referred her to Sheikh Hasina Burn Unit in the capital as her condition deteriorated.

Monjila died while undergoing treatment at the hospital on Friday afternoon.

Officer in Charge (OC) of Khetlal Police Station Nirendranath Mondal said victim's father Sabur filed a case with the police station on July 27.

Monjila was admitted to the hospital with burns on 80 percent of her body, the OC added.

Journalists of different print and electronic media in Pabna held a protest rally in the town yesterday and then announce a three-day agitation program, demanding withdrawal of the case filed against Pabna Press Club Secretary Soikot Afroz Asad under the Digital Security Act (DSA). Former Awami League Lawmaker from Pabna-2 constituency Azizul Haque Arzu filed a case with the Cyber Tribunal in Dhaka on June 9 for publishing a news.



PHOTO: STAR

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
Education Engineering Department
Gaibandha

Invitation for e-Tender (IFT) (OTM)

Tender Notice No. e-GP-01/XEN/EED/Gai/2021-22/ Date: 04/08/2021
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. The tenderer who have registered in the National e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is eligible to participate in this tender. The fees of downloading the e-Tender documents of following packages from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches up to the following date and time.

Sl. No.	Package No.	Name of works	Tender ID	Last date & time of selling documents	Last date & time of submission documents
1	EED/GAI/ICT College/2020-21/Mohipur	Construction of 4-Storeyed Academic Building with 4-Storeyed Foundation in/c Sanitary Water Supply & Electrification Works at Mohipur Bazar College Sadullapur, Gaibandha.	587870	01/09/2021 Time: 17.00	02/09/2021 Time: 13.00
2	EED/GAI/ICT College/2020-21/Chandia	Construction of 4-Storeyed Academic Building with 4-Storeyed Foundation in/c Sanitary Water Supply & Electrification Works at Chandia Molila College Fulchari, Gaibandha.	587871	01/09/2021 Time: 17.00	02/09/2021 Time: 13.00

a) Tender publication date on live: 10.00am on 08/08/2021.
b) 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.
c) To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.
d) The fees of downloading the e-Tender documents of following packages from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches up to 17.00 on 01/09/2021.
e) Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Md. Asaduzzaman
Executive Engineer

GD-1422

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Ref. No. 08.01.0000.003.22.001.20.479 Date: 05 August 2021

e-Tender Notice
Tender Notice No. 02/2021

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the Procurement of 100 mbps Dedicated Internet Broadband Connection in NBR (01 Year). The Tender ID Number is 594410 and method of tender is OTM. Only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copy will be accepted.

To submit e-Tender, registration is required in the National e-GP System Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd). The fees for downloading the e-Tender document from the National e-GP System Portal has to be deposited online through any registered bank. Tender documents publication date is 04 August 2021 at 12.00pm.

Md. Abu Musa
Deputy Commissioner of Taxes
Second Secretary (Board Administration-3)

GD-1423