

# Bhogtera Community Clinic: Setting precedence in normal delivery

The hospital sets a record of a thousand normal deliveries free of cost

MINU DESHWARA

Twenty-five-year old Khadija Akter of Moulvibazar's Barlekha upazila got married in Chaudagram of Cumilla. She moved to her father's house a few months ago as she was pregnant.

Her relatives brought her to the Bhogtera Community Clinic in Juri upazila around 7:00am on August 10 after she started experiencing labour pains.

Khadija said, "Due to various medical complications, I lost all hope of my life. I thought I would have to undergo caesarean section. But, suddenly the community clinic gave me a huge relief. I gave birth to a baby boy at 9:20am with the help of Lipa Khanam, a midwife at the clinic."

With the birth of Khadija's baby, the clinic set a record of one thousand normal deliveries. Of them, seven women have given birth to twins. As a result, the total number of children born at the clinic stands at one thousand seven.

Husna Begum, a resident of Bhogtera village, said "We the people of the village no longer worry about diseases now. We go to the nearby community clinic when we suffer from fever or stomach ailments. We don't need to buy medicines as we get free medicines from there."

Not only Khadija Akter or Husna, the people of a number of villages in Moulvibazar district are very happy with the medical services provided by the Bhogtera Community Clinic.

Upazila Health and Family Planning Officer Samarjit Singha said, as a small community clinic inside the rural village, the facility has set a record of one thousand normal deliveries free of cost for over 9 years. The hospital, located in Juri Upazila of Moulvibazar, is known as the 'Hospital of the Poor'. The clinic



Patients queue up for treatment at Bhogtera Community Clinic in Juri upazila of Moulvibazar.

PHOTO: STAR

is in the first position in normal delivery in Sylhet division. The community clinic encourages normal delivery and only recommends caesarian sections in exceptionally critical cases, he said.

Community Health Care Provider (CHCP) Haniful Islam said, the clinic started its journey with the initiative of locals and upazila health division on the land of a local resident Moynul Islam in 2012. On January 12 in 2012, the first baby was born in the clinic without any c-section. A total of 1007 babies have been

born in the clinic so far. Of them, 540 were girls, 367 were boys and seven were twins.

Sadia Begum, a patient of the clinic, said the physicians and nurses, better known as community healthcare providers, are patient-friendly and give free medicines to the patients. No money is required to purchase medicines.

Lipa Khanam, a volunteer maternity staffer and a resident of the same village, said she joined the clinic in June 2014 after receiving training on midwifery. So far 746 children have been

born in her hands. However, she does not get any remuneration for her work.

Moulvibazar Civil Surgeon Chowdhury Jalal Uddin Murshed said, the clinic received Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina award on the occasion of Safe Motherhood Day on June 19 in 2013. Besides, the clinic also received the best community clinic award at the national level on July 16 in the same year.

He highlighted people's satisfaction over the services from the community clinic, saying that everybody is happy

with the Medicare services and free medicines provided by the clinic.

Rafiq Mia, treasurer of the clinic management committee, said the then state minister for health, late Mujibur Rahman Fakir visited the clinic on April 26, 2013. He assured to turn the clinic into a 10-bed mother and child hospital. However, no action was taken in this regard later.

He demanded that the government take initiative to implement the assurance of the state minister.

## JAMUNA SWELLS

# Thousands marooned in low laying areas of Sirajganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Thousands of people living in low-lying areas of different upazilas of Sirajganj have been marooned as the mighty Jamuna river has continued to swell.

The river has been swelling rapidly over the last couple of days and the water level is almost close to the danger level mark.

The situation is worsening every day as the increasing water level may cross the danger mark anytime, but surprisingly Sirajganj Water Development Board (WDB) ruled out any chances of immediate flood in the district.

Although, officially there is no, most of the low-laying areas under Sirajganj Sadar, Kazipur, Chowhali, Belkuchi and Shahzadpur upazilas have been submerged under water, marooning over 50,000 in those shoal areas.

While visiting different flood hit areas, this correspondent saw many waterlogged families seeking help from the government, although officially there is no flood.

"Flood water may enter my house any time as water level in the Jamuna keeps increasing over the last few days, Babul Miah of Bonni village in Sirajganj Sadar upazila said.

Amid the waterlogging situation, Babul is facing serious trouble in maintaining his family as has been out of work for long due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic.

Like Babul most of the people living in the low-laying areas along the Jamuna river are experiencing the pain as they are not getting any support from the government.

Sirajganj District Relief and Rehabilitation Officer Abdur Rahim said usually people living in shoal areas are habituated to fight against natural disasters.

Any relief distributing work is yet to start as officially there is no flood, he said, adding that waterlogging in the low-laying areas of Sirajganj is a common problem.



PHOTO: STAR

# Three quarters of Kuakata Nat'l Park gone in the sea

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

After taking heavy pounding from different cyclonic storms such as Sidr, Aila, Fani, Amphan and most recently Yaas, Kuakata National Park by the sea beach lost three quarters of its land and forestry in little over a decade's time.

According to the Forest Department in Patuakhali, more than 2.5 lakh trees and around 2,000 acres of forest land on Kuakata beach have been lost to the sea due to Cyclone Sidr in 2007 and various other cyclonic storms that swept through the region till date.

Kuakata National Park was established on 13,984 hectares of forestland in Gangamoti, Latachpali, Khajura and Fatrar Bon areas alongside Kuakata beach where the Forest Department



PHOTO: SOHRAB HOSSAIN

In this recent photo, uprooted jhau trees are seen scattered near the entrance of Kuakata National Park by the beach.

initially spent Tk 2.76 crore to establish an ecopark in 2005-06 fiscal year, as part of its coastal afforestation programme.

Around 42,000 trees of different species were planted in the park where the authorities also built five picnic sheds, an eye-catching wood bridge, dirt trekking paths, several culverts, ticket counters, office buildings and various other establishments.

Jhau (casuarina equisetifolia) trees were planted along the

southern shore in a bid to protect the park from tidal wind and surges.

During a recent visit to the park, this correspondent came across many uprooted jhau trees and bits and pieces of damaged picnic sheds and sections of boundary wall scattered all over the beach.

Forest guard Monirul Islam said that while the forestry is being diminished every year due to cyclones, floods and high tides, Cyclone Amphan last year alone uprooted about 1,000 trees on the

beach.

Tourists and students from different parts of the country used to visit the scenic park for its flora and fauna, but the deteriorating state of Kuakata National Park and the adjacent beach will ultimately affect the number of visitors when all lockdown restrictions are lifted, said Rumman Intiaz Tushar, president of Kuakata Tour Operators' Association.

Patuakhali Divisional Forest Officer Abdullah Al Mamun said the Kuakata beach has been facing massive erosion since Cyclone Sidr.

Only 1,300 acres of forestland that still exists near the beach may soon disappear unless effective and sustainable measures are taken to protect the Kuakata coastline, he added.

Kuakata town Mayor Anwar Hossain said that with no effective measures taken to protect the coastline so far, the Kuakata beach is losing its beauty as it is slowly disappearing into the sea.

Contacted, Executive Engineer Abdul Halim Salehee of Bangladesh Water Development Board in Patuakhali said they already made a proposal to construct a permanent embankment for the protection of Kuakata sea beach and the proposal was sent to the higher authorities for approval.

**Kuakata National Park was established on 13,984 hectares of forestland in Gangamoti, Latachpali, Khajura and Fatrar Bon areas alongside Kuakata beach.**

## Online Certificate Course on Genocide and Justice

Center for the Study of Genocide and Justice (CSGJ) of the Liberation War Museum (LWM) invites interested individuals to apply for participating in the **Online Certificate Course on Genocide and Justice** to be held from 03 September 2021 till 09 October 2021.

The month-long certificate course will be held virtually (using Zoom platform) on each Friday and Saturday afternoon. Academics and experts from home and abroad will conduct the classes. The deadline for submitting the application form is 25 August 2021. The applicants should be from Bangladesh and at least 3rd Year student of any university or a professional with Bachelor's degree or equivalent. Proficiency in English is required.

The selected applicants will have to pay a course fee of Tk. 1000 before the commencement of the course. The students will have to pay Tk. 500 as concessional course fee. Limited number of course fee waiver shall be offered to some deserving candidates. The interested individuals are requested to fill up the form:

<https://cutt.ly/tQ8nx2>



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## DISPUTE OVER PROPERTY

# Ex-schoolteacher killed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pirojpur

A former schoolteacher was killed allegedly by one of her elder sister over a dispute, centring share of their ancestral property, in Indurkani upazila yesterday.

The deceased, Maknu Akhter, 40, a former primary school teacher, used to live with her family in the capital.

Deceased's husband Kamal Hossain, a college teacher, said there had been a feud between his wife and her elder sister Kamrunnahar Minu over the ownership of their ancestral property.

Kamal and his wife came to his in-laws' house at Parerhat in the upazila on Thursday as an arbitration meeting was scheduled for yesterday to settle the matter.

But, before the meeting is held, a quarrel took place between the two sisters.

At one stage, Minu and his three children—Sumana, Mohana and Siam—beat up Maknu mercilessly with sticks and left her unconscious, Kamal alleged.

Later, neighbours and family members rescued injured Maknu and took her to Pirojpur District Hospital, where the doctors declared her dead.

Mohsin Howlader, a member of Parerhat union parishad (UP), said the murder incident occurred after Minu denied to attend the arbitration scheduled for yesterday.

Officer in Charge (OC Investigation) of Indurkani Police Station Shamim Ahmed said they picked up Minu and her three children for interrogation in connection with the murder, adding the body was sent to the hospital for autopsy.

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হেড অফিস ৮, রাজউক এডিনিউ, ঢাকা হিউম্যান রিসোর্স ম্যানেজমেন্ট ডিপার্টমেন্ট	
নং-০৬/১/	
আগস্ট ১৯, ২০২১	
দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি	
০১। প্রকিউরিং এনটিটিসির নাম	হিউম্যান রিসোর্স ম্যানেজমেন্ট ডিপার্টমেন্ট, বাংলাদেশ ডেভেলপমেন্ট ব্যাংক লিমিটেড (বিডিবিএল), হেড অফিস, বিডিবিএল ভবন (সেক্টর-৯), ৮, রাজউক এডিনিউ, ঢাকা-১০০০।
০২। দরপত্র পদ্ধতি	পাবলিক প্রকিউরিং বিধিমালা (পিপিআর)-২০০৮ অনুসরণে Open Tendering Method-এ।
০৩। তহবিলের উৎস	বাংলাদেশ ডেভেলপমেন্ট ব্যাংক লিমিটেড (বিডিবিএল)-এর নিজস্ব তহবিল।
০৪। কাজের সংক্ষিপ্ত বিবরণ	বাংলাদেশ ডেভেলপমেন্ট ব্যাংক লিমিটেড (বিডিবিএল)-এর হেড অফিস ও ঢাকাসহ দেশের বিভিন্ন এলাকায় অবস্থিত অফিসসমূহের জন্য আউটসোর্সিং পদ্ধতিতে ৫৮ (আটান্ন) জন ডাটা এন্ট্রি অপারেটর ও ৬৭ (সাতষাট) জন ম্যাসেঞ্জার সফটওয়্যার লক্ষ্যে প্রকৃত ও খ্যাতিসম্পন্ন জনবল সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান নিয়োগ।
০৫। দরপত্র সিডিউল বিক্রয় ও জমা গ্রহণের ঠিকানা	হিউম্যান রিসোর্স ম্যানেজমেন্ট ডিপার্টমেন্ট, বাংলাদেশ ডেভেলপমেন্ট ব্যাংক লিমিটেড (বিডিবিএল), হেড অফিস, বিডিবিএল ভবন (সেক্টর-৯), ৮, রাজউক এডিনিউ, ঢাকা-১০০০।
০৬। দরপত্র সিডিউল বিক্রয়ের সর্বশেষ তারিখ ও সময়	সর্বশেষ ০৫/০৯/২০২১ তারিখ অফিস চলাকালীন সময় পর্যন্ত।
০৭। দরপত্র দাখিলের সর্বশেষ তারিখ ও সময়	সর্বশেষ ০৬/০৯/২০২১ তারিখ দুপুর ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
০৮। দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ, সময় ও স্থান	০৬/০৯/২০২১ তারিখ দুপুর ১২.৩০ ঘটিকা, স্থান: হিউম্যান রিসোর্স ম্যানেজমেন্ট ডিপার্টমেন্ট, বাংলাদেশ ডেভেলপমেন্ট ব্যাংক লিমিটেড (বিডিবিএল), হেড অফিস, বিডিবিএল ভবন (সেক্টর-৯), ৮, রাজউক এডিনিউ, ঢাকা-১০০০। সকল দরদাতা/দরদাতার প্রতিনিধির (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) উপস্থিতিতে দরপত্র খোলা হবে।
০৯। দরপত্রদাতার যোগ্যতা	(ক) রেজিস্টার্ড অব জয়েন্ট স্টক কোম্পানীজ এন্ড ফার্মস-এ নিবন্ধনকৃত; (খ) বিভিন্ন প্রতিষ্ঠানে ডাটা এন্ট্রি অপারেটর/ম্যাসেঞ্জার সরবরাহে ন্যূনতম ৩ (তিন) বছরের অভিজ্ঞতা সম্পন্ন জনবল সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান; (গ) এছাড়া, দরপত্র সিডিউলে উল্লিখিত অন্যান্য শর্তাদি।
১০। টেন্ডার সিকিউরিটি	বাংলাদেশে অবস্থিত যে কোন তফসিলী ব্যাংক থেকে বাংলাদেশ ডেভেলপমেন্ট ব্যাংক লিমিটেড (বিডিবিএল)-এর অনুকূলে পে-অর্ডার ডাটা এন্ট্রি অপারেটরের জন্য ৪,৬০,০০০.০০ (চার লক্ষ ষাট হাজার) টাকা এবং ম্যাসেঞ্জারের জন্য ৩,৬৮,০০০.০০ (তিন লক্ষ আটশত হাজার) টাকা মাত্র।
১১। দরপত্র সিডিউলের মূল্য	ডাটা এন্ট্রি অপারেটরের জন্য ১,০০০.০০ (এক হাজার) টাকা (অফেরতযোগ্য) এবং ম্যাসেঞ্জারের জন্য ১,০০০.০০ (এক হাজার) টাকা (অফেরতযোগ্য)। দুটি পদের জন্য দুটি পৃথক খামে দরপত্র জমা দিতে হবে।

বাংলাদেশ ডেভেলপমেন্ট ব্যাংক লিমিটেড (বিডিবিএল) কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন প্রকার কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতীত যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল অথবা সকল দরপত্র বাতিল করার অধিকার সংরক্ষণ করে।

কবির আহমদ  
ডেপুটি ম্যানেজিং ম্যানেজার  
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