

Road turns into dumpsite of Dhamrai municipality

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

Kelia area of Dhamrai upazila has become hazardous to traffic and unhealthy for locals and passers-by, as 10 to 15 truckloads of garbage dumped there every day by municipality workers is spilling onto Dhamrai-Kalampur road.

Over fifty thousand people use the road every day and it gets packed with vehicles when an accident on nearby Dhaka-Aricha highway forces traffic to take a detour through this road.

Ibrahim Khalil, sales representative at a firm, said he rides his motorbike on the road to and from his work every day. But with the road strewn with garbage in Kelia area, it is getting increasingly difficult to pass the spot safely amid suffocating stench.

While the garbage is making the road unsafe for vehicles, especially for motorbikes, it is putting everyone's

them and I dump garbage there [Kelia] four to five times a day," he added.

Alhaj Golam Kabir, the mayor of the municipality, said like all other municipalities in the country, his municipality does not have its own dumpsite.

"Where would I dump 30 to 40 tonnes of waste every day? The place where the waste is being dumped now is an abandoned place owned by the Roads and Highways Department [RHD]. Since we don't have any other place [for the purpose], we spoke with officials of RHD prior to starting the disposal of garbage there," he claimed.

The mayor said that he was assured of getting allocation of a piece of government land for the purpose after he raised the issue to the upazila administration at the last 'law and order meeting'.

Besides, they reached an agreement with a non-governmental organisation



Dhamrai-Kalampur road in Kelia area of Dhamrai upazila poses safety and health hazards for all, as it remains strewn with garbage from Dhamrai municipality most of the time.

PHOTO: AKLAKUR RAHMAN AKASH

health in harms way, he also said.

Kelia resident Fazlu Mia said over the last couple of months, he has been seeing Dhamrai municipality trucks dumping garbage there 10 to 15 times daily. "The disposing of garbage out in the open has been causing immense sufferings and it needs to be stopped."

Dhamrai municipality garbage truck driver Rezaul Karim said they had been using the place as a dumpsite as per instruction of Dhamrai municipality officials.

"The municipality has three trucks for garbage disposal. I drive one of

for recycling garbage once a permanent dumpsite is allocated for Dhamrai municipality, he added.

Contacted, RHD's Manikganj Divisional Executive Engineer Gausul-Hassan Maruf said they never authorised disposal of any garbage from Dhamrai municipality on any land belonging to the RHD.

"We fined municipality workers several times for dumping garbage there, but the practice has been going on. We will take tougher action if they [Dhamrai municipality] don't stop it," he warned.



The movables of Pashchim Bajra Government Primary School in Ulipur upazila of Kurigram are being removed before a furious Teesta devoured its building.

PHOTO: S DILIP ROY

Eight pry schools in Kurigram devoured in a month

25 more schools on the bank of Teesta, Dharla, Brahmaputra and Dudhkumar in Kurigram and Lalmonirhat are under similar threat

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Unabated erosion by Teesta, Dharla, Brahmaputra and Dudhkumar has devoured eight primary schools in the last one month and 25 more schools are on the verge of extinction in Kurigram and Lalmonirhat districts.

Although the furniture of the damaged schools could be preserved, there is no space available in the localities for the reconstruction of these schools.

According to Kurigram and Lalmonirhat District Primary Education Office sources, seven primary schools in Kurigram have gone into the riverbed due to erosion. There are 25 more primary schools under the threat of being devoured anytime.

In Lalmonirhat, one school has

already yielded to the grasp of erosion and five more are awaiting the same fate.

Sekendar Ali, 58, of Chilmaripara village in Hatibandha upazila of Lalmonirhat, said that Dakshin Sindurna Primary School has gone into the riverbed due to the continuous erosion of the river Teesta. It was the only educational institution in the char area. If the school is not rebuilt in char, their children will be deprived of the light of education.

Akkas Ali Mandal, 60, of Paschim Bajra village in Ulipur upazila of Kurigram, said Pashchim Bajra Primary School has disappeared into the riverbed due to the erosion of the Teesta river. The furniture in the school has been somehow protected.

The school cannot be rebuilt due to lack of space. If the school is relocated from here, the children of the char will have no access to education.

Afsar Ali, a teacher at Pashchim Bajra Government Primary School, said that the school's furniture has been protected and kept under the open sky. The matter has been informed to the authorities. Land for the school is being searched locally for the reconstruction of the school but it seems highly unlikely that the school could be rebuilt in the locality due to the unavailability of land.

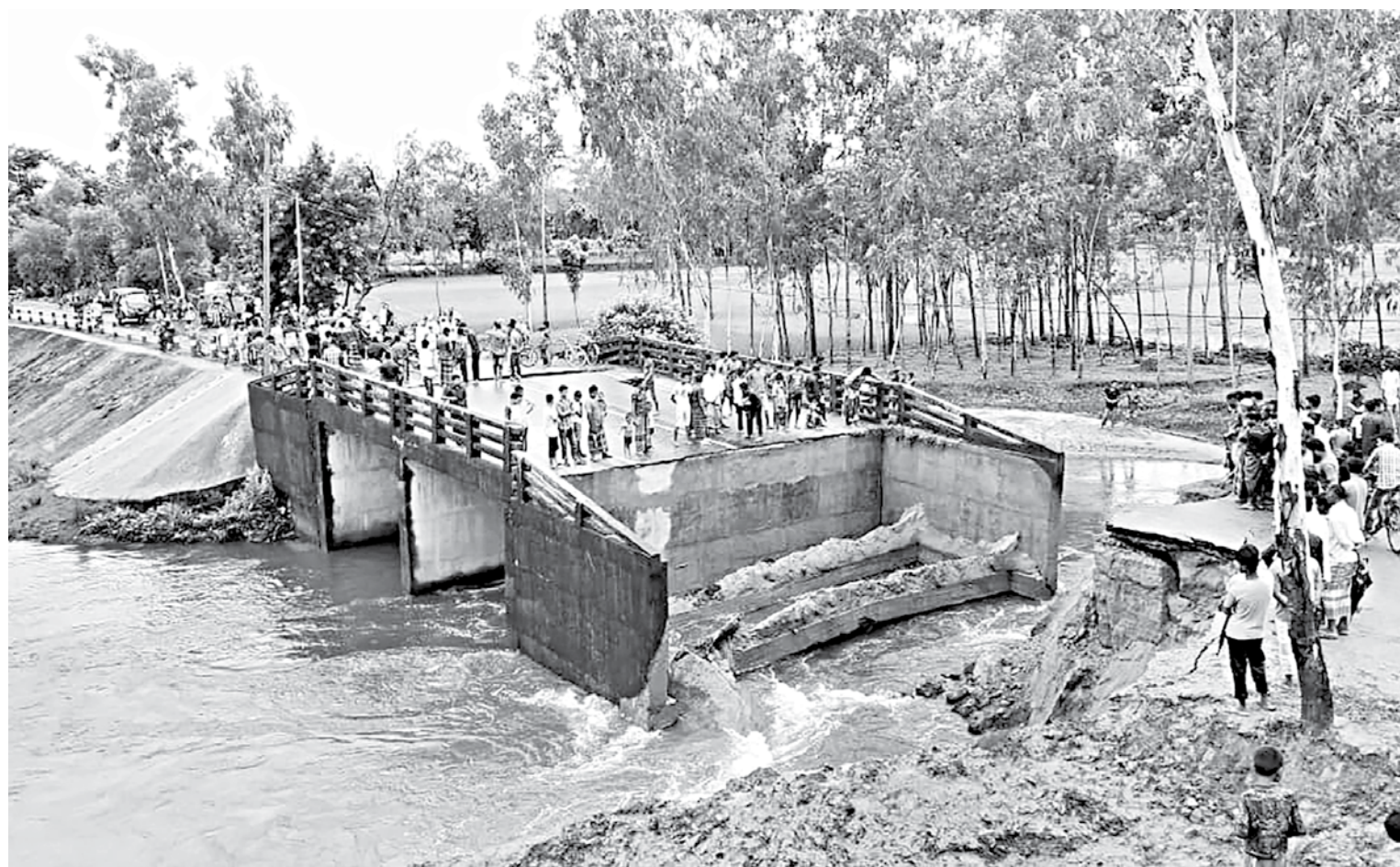
Kurigram District Primary Education Officer Shahidul Islam said instructions have been given to the teachers for managing the land locally to rebuild the schools.

In addition, a letter has been sent to the deputy commissioner (DC) and the executive engineer of Water Development Board (WDB) to protect the schools that are facing the wrath of the ravaging rivers.

The schools that have already been devoured by the rivers will be rebuilt in the affected areas but if there is no space available locally, action will be taken as per the decision of the education committee, said Shahidul.

Ariful Islam, executive engineer of WDB in Kurigram, said that sand-filled geo-bags and geotubes are being dumped in several places to protect the schools from the erosion.

It was also possible to make some schools safe from the impact of erosion, he added.



The approach road to Bhakterbari Bridge in Panchagarh's Boda upazila collapses on Friday due to huge pressure of water caused by incessant rain in the last couple of days.

PHOTO: STAR

HEAVY DOWNPOUR

People suffer as bridge connecting road collapses

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

Sudden collapse of an approach road, connecting Bhakterbari Bridge in Panchagarh's Boda upazila, due to landslide caused by flash flood has left thousands of people of five unions under three upazilas of the district in immense sufferings.

People of five unions, which include three in Boda and one each in Sadar and Debiganj upazilas, use the bridge frequently to go to their destinations and other regular activities.

Locals said people of almost all the villages under Debiganj upazila use the bridge, on Panchagarh-Debiganj road that connects the district town and the upazila headquarters, to go to the district

town as it shortens nearly 10 kilometres journey.

Meanwhile, due to the sudden collapse of the bridge people living in the five surrounding unions are now going to their destinations for their daily works by travelling additional 10 to 15 kilometres distance.

While visiting the area yesterday morning this correspondent saw all kinds of movement through the bridge has been completely snapped due to the sudden collapse of the approach road.

Abdur Rahman of Gorerdanga village under Bangram union in Boda upazila said the approach road in the northern side of the bridge was washed away due to onrush of water caused by continuous rainfall

in the last couple of days.

Banghari Bangram Union Parishad (UP) Chairman Abul Kalam Azad said due to the sudden collapse of the bridge approach road thousands of people of nearby areas facing immense sufferings to go to their desired destinations.


Panchagarh Roads and Highways Department (RHD) Executive Engineer Mohammad Moniruzzaman said about 20-foot portion in the north side of the approach road to Bhakterbari Bridge was washed away on Friday afternoon due to huge pressure of water caused by incessant rain in the last few days.

They were taking preparation to set up a makeshift bailey bridge on the spot immediately to


restore the communication for the convenience of the commuters, he added.

The bridge on Panchagarh-Debiganj road was built in 2009-10 fiscal year while the 11-kilometre road connecting the bridge was renovated in last fiscal spending Tk 2 crore, the engineer further said, adding that after visiting the spot higher authorities of the department will decide whether the bridge will be rebuilt or renovated.

Panchagarh Deputy Commissioner (DC) Mohammad Johirul Islam said he has visited the spot and asked the officials concerned to set up a bailey bridge to restore the communication soon.



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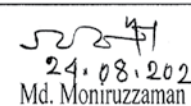


শেখ হাসিনার মনোনীত
গাম শহরের উন্নতি

Invitation for Expression of Interest (EOI) for Conducting Research

Ministry/Division	Local Government Division, Ministry of LGRD & Cooperatives
Agency	National Institute of Local Government (NILG)
Procuring Entity	Director (Research & Planning)
EOI for Selection	Lump sum (Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) for Consulting firms (National).
EOI Ref. No.	46.018.0000.000.03.001.17.53
Date	24 August, 2021
Key Information	a) Interested Consulting firms are required to submit their expression of interest in accordance with Standard Request for Proposal , Research Policy and ToR of NILG which may be obtained from the office of the undersigned during normal office hours (9 am to 5 pm) or available in the website: www.nilg.gov.bd b) A Research Proposal contained with following outlined and information: 01. Introduction/Problem statement, 02. Rationale of the Research, 03. Research Objective, 04. Scope of Research, 05. Research Methodology, 06. Data Analysis, 07. Time Limit/Work Plan, 08. Detail Budget with Cost break up, 09. Biodata of Researcher and 10. Related personnel to be recruited for research. c) Selected Research will get maximum 1200,000/- (Twelve lac for package-1) and will get maximum 800,000/- (Eight lac for package-2) including Vat, Tax and Research' Honorarium in both cases. Research' Honorarium will not exceed by 50% of the total cost. Research proposals have to be submitted considering the Covid-19 situation and normal situation.
Budget and Source of Fund	GOB, Revenue Fund
Preproposal meeting	07 September, 2021 (at 11.00 am physically)
EOI Closing Date and Time	13 September, 2021 (up to 1.00 pm)
Brief Description of Assignments	Impact Assessment of the following Training Which Implemented by NILG Package-1 (Impact Assessment of UP related training): a. Foundation training course for UP Secretaries; b. Maintaining of Law and Order Training for Village police force; c. UP administration and financial management course for Accountant cum Computer operator; package-2 (Impact Assessment of Paurashava related training): a. Waste management of Paurashava for Conservancy Inspector; b. Paurashava Administration Orientation course for Councilors.
Name and Address of Official inviting EOI	Md. Moniruzzaman Joint Secretary Director (Research & Planning) Phone: 02-55006981, Mobile: 01712202354 E-mail: mzkta354@gmail.com
Please note that the authority reserved to reject any or all proposal(s).	

N.B: A consulting firm can apply for only one package.



24.08.2021
Md. Moniruzzaman
Joint Secretary
Director (Research & Planning)

GD- 1537