

# Gorai erosion puts Sheikh Russell Bridge, nearby villages at risk

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Nearly one-fourth of a 410-metre-long embankment along the Gorai river, on Haripur union side of Sadar upazila, has collapsed in only four years after construction.

In 2017, Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) spent around Tk 10 crore to build embankments on both sides of the river to protect the Tk 78-crore Sheikh Russell Bridge that was completed earlier that year.

Built to protect the bridge as well as establishments, croplands and dwellings in nearby villages, the affected part of the embankment started to develop cracks in October last year, said locals.

The embankment has continued to collapse into the river since then and till date, the river eroded away more than a hundred houses and around 150 metres of roads, said Shompa Mahmud, chairman of Haripur Union Parishad.

The newly built bridge and a larger area now run the risk of getting washed away by the Gorai river, but the authorities concerned are yet to take steps in this regard, the locals said frustratingly.

Officials at the LGED in Kushtia claimed that soon after the cracks started to develop, they informed the higher authorities of the situation and sought necessary funds for its repair work.

However, the funds were yet to be allocated, they also said.

Afsar Uddin, executive engineer of Bangladesh Water Development Board in Kushtia, said the damage to the embankment could have been prevented if measures were taken swiftly.

LGED spent around Tk 10 crore to build embankments on both sides of the river to protect the Tk 78-crore Sheikh Russell Bridge. But, built to protect the bridge as well as establishments, croplands and dwellings in nearby villages, the affected part of the embankment started to develop cracks in October last year.

MA Hafiz Ovi, a resident of the area and an engineer by profession, said there has to be engineering flaws in the embankment, otherwise it would not have developed cracks within three years of construction.

An LGED official seeking anonymity said a thorough river training work was not done before the dam was constructed.

Contacted, Executive Engineer Jahidur Rahman of LGED in Kushtia said the embankment being eroded by the Gorai river would not affect the bridge.

They wrote to the higher authorities last year for necessary funds for the repair work and they hope that the funds would be allocated soon, he also said.



Finding it extremely difficult to move, the people Char Sholmari on the Teesta river basin in Bhoatmari union under Kaliganj upazila of Lalmonirhat took spades on their hands to reclaim and repair a government road that was under the illegal possession of a private solar power company.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

# Char people reclaim govt road from clutch of a pvt company

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Char people have reclaimed and repaired a govt road that was under illegal possession of a private solar power company at Char Sholmari on the Teesta river basin in Bhoatmari union under Kaliganj upazila of Lalmonirhat.

More than a hundred farmers of the char took the spades in their hands and repaired the only government road by filling it with earth after reclaiming it from the illegal possession of Intraco Solar Power Limited on Saturday noon (September 25). Later, they also formed a human chain on the Teesta Char protesting the forcible occupation of the khas land (government-owned land) and road by the private company.

The char people alleged that in the name of a 30MW solar power generation project at Sholmari Char, the private company has continued building various establishments by occupying khas lands, roads and canals in the char. They were forced to reclaim and repair the govt road for their movement on Saturday noon.

Locals alleged that the company has continued building various establishments by occupying khas lands in the name of a 30MW solar power generation project.

Soleman Ali, 62, a farmer from Char Sholmari, said the private company did not stop just after grabbing the river and khas land in the char. The company has taken possession of the land of many farmers by 'forging documents'. It has forced farmers to sell their land at a cheap rate by employing brokers.

'We used to cultivate khas land on the char and grow various crops. In this way, our family was going well. Now we can't cultivate the lands as the company has taken over the possession of the khas lands,' he said.

'We will soon call for a movement to recover the khas land. The solar power plant on the char will not be of any use to us,' said Sekendar Ali, 55, another farmer of the same char.

'A clique of brokers is benefiting from the private company by deceiving the char farmers. The brokers are also threatening us in various ways,' he said.

Abdul Matin, a local UP member, said that Intraco Solar Power Limited enclosed the government road and khas land in the name of setting up a solar power plant. As a result, the teachers, students and char people have been facing extreme difficulty while moving. Locals repeatedly asked the company to keep the road free, but they did not listen. This caused anger among the local people. The char people had no choice but to take spades in their hands and repair the road after recovering it from the possession of the company on Saturday noon, he said.

Contacted, Aziz Babu, manager of Intraco Solar Power Limited's Sholmari Solar Power Plant, declined to make any comments.



With the Sheikh Russell Bridge visible several hundred feet away, a large section of the bridge's protection embankment has eroded away by the Gorai river in Haripur union of Kushtia Sadar upazila. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

# No closure, no justice

FROM PAGE 12 houses of the Hindus in Kharulia village.

The following day, the zealots attacked and ransacked five Buddhist temples in the bordering Ukhiya upazila and damaged two Hindu temples in Palongkhali union of the upazila. They also torched and vandalised Buddhist houses in Hoaikong union of Teknaf upazila.

On October 2 and 3, 2012, SC lawyers Jyotirmoy Barua and Md Eunus Ali Akond, separately filed the two writ petitions, seeking actions against the perpetrators and the local administrative officials who were negligent in preventing

the incidents.

## PROBE REPORTS

The probe reports were submitted to the HC bench, led by Justice Mirza Hussain Haider, now retired. Before his elevation as a judge of the Appellate Division, the jurisdiction of the bench was reconstituted by the chief justice.

One of the reports submitted to the HC on May 16, 2013 found the failure of the local administration and intelligence and law enforcement agencies in preventing the attacks.

The probe, conducted by a judicial body, identified 298 people as responsible for the attacks. It also made 20 recommendations that include helping improve the

competence and standards of the administration, restricting posts on social media, and awakening a sense of patriotism in people, HC sources said.

Another probe led by the police found failures of the then superintendent of police of Cox's Bazar and officer-in-charge of Ramu Police Station. While the probe committee recommended action against the then OC AK Nazibul Islam, it did not suggest any action against the then SP Selim Md Jahangir.

The final probe report, by the home ministry, mentioned that 205 people were involved in the mayhem, which was

planned at least 10 days ahead.

The police have reportedly submitted seven charge sheets against 385 people to the lower court concerned in Cox's Bazar in connection with the cases filed with Ramu Police Station.

However, the people accused in the charge sheets do not include any officials in the police, local administration, and intelligence agencies.

Only some leaders and activists of Jamaat-e-Islami and BNP, including Tofail Ahmed, chairman of Naikhyangchhari upazila of Bandarban, have been named in the charge sheets. PETITIONS


The petitioners have also been showing apathy in moving for a hearing, causing delays for the HC to give a final decision.

'I could not take any move for a hearing of the writ petition due to overburdening of the relevant High Court benches with other cases. Besides, the court remained closed at different times due to vacations and the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. I will pray to a High Court bench after it starts full regular functions when the pandemic is over,' Jyotirmoy Barua told The Daily Star on September 26.

He also said all of the accused in the Ramu violence cases are now out on bail, and there is no significant progress at the lower court concerned in Cox's Bazar.

Lawyer Eunus Ali Akond, the other writ petitioner, told this correspondent on September 26 that the HC bench headed by Justice Mirza Hussain Haider had not held a hearing of his writ petition, as the matter did not get a spot in the queue for hearing.

Without elaborating, he said he would not pray to any bench for hearing his petition, as the judges don't accept his petition for its final hearing due to an overburdened caseload.



## বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক

হিউম্যান রিসোর্সেস ডিপার্টমেন্ট-১  
প্রধান কার্যালয়  
ঢাকা।

তারিখ: ১৪ আশ্বিন, ১৪২৮  
২৯ সেপ্টেম্বর, ২০২১

### নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক 'ক্যাম্প অফিসার' পদে নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে নিম্নবর্ণিত শর্তে বাংলাদেশী স্থায়ী নাগরিকদের নিকট হতে দরখাস্ত আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে:

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| ০১। পদ সংখ্যা  | : ২০০ (দুইশত) টি (কম/বেশী হতে পারে)।   |
| ০২। বেতন স্কেল | : জাতীয় বেতন স্কেল, ২০১৫ এর টাকা ১৬০০০-১৬৮০০-১৭৬০০-১৮৪০০-১৯২০০-২০০০০-২০৮০০-২১৬০০-২২৪০০-২৩২০০-২৪০০০-২৪৮০০-২৫৬০০-২৬৪০০-২৭২০০-২৮০০০-২৮৮০০-২৯৬০০-৩০৪০০-৩১২০০-৩২০০০-৩২৮০০-৩৩৬০০-৩৪৪০০-৩৫২০০-৩৬০০০-৩৬৮০০-৩৭৬০০-৩৮৪০০-৩৯২০০-৪০০০০-৪০৮০০-৪১৬০০-৪২৪০০-৪৩২০০-৪৪০০০-৪৪৮০০-৪৫৬০০-৪৬৪০০-৪৭২০০-৪৮০০০-৪৮৮০০-৪৯৬০০-৫০৪০০-৫১২০০-৫২০০০-৫২৮০০-৫৩৬০০-৫৪৪০০-৫৫২০০-৫৬০০০-৫৬৮০০-৫৭৬০০-৫৮৪০০-৫৯২০০-৬০০০০-৬০৮০০-৬১৬০০-৬২৪০০-৬৩২০০-৬৪০০০-৬৪৮০০-৬৫৬০০-৬৬৪০০-৬৭২০০-৬৮০০০-৬৮৮০০-৬৯৬০০-৭০৪০০-৭১২০০-৭২০০০-৭২৮০০-৭৩৬০০-৭৪৪০০-৭৫২০০-৭৬০০০-৭৬৮০০-৭৭৬০০-৭৮৪০০-৭৯২০০-৮০০০০-৮০৮০০-৮১৬০০-৮২৪০০-৮৩২০০-৮৪০০০-৮৪৮০০-৮৫৬০০-৮৬৪০০-৮৭২০০-৮৮০০০-৮৮৮০০-৮৯৬০০-৯০৪০০-৯১২০০-৯২০০০-৯২৮০০-৯৩৬০০-৯৪৪০০-৯৫২০০-৯৬০০০-৯৬৮০০-৯৭৬০০-৯৮৪০০-৯৯২০০-১০০০০০-১০০৮০০-১০১৬০০-১০২৪০০-১০৩২০০-১০৪০০০-১০৪৮০০-১০৫৬০০-১০৬৪০০-১০৭২০০-১০৮০০০-১০৮৮০০-১০৯৬০০-১১০৪০০-১১১২০০-১১২০০০-১১২৮০০-১১৩৬০০-১১৪৪০০-১১৫২০০-১১৬০০০-১১৬৮০০-১১৭৬০০-১১৮৪০০-১১৯২০০-১২০০০০-১২০৮০০-১২১৬০০-১২২৪০০-১২৩২০০-১২৪০০০-১২৪৮০০-১২৫৬০০-১২৬৪০০-১২৭২০০-১২৮০০০-১২৮৮০০-১২৯৬০০-১৩০৪০০-১৩১২০০-১৩২০০০-১৩২৮০০-১৩৩৬০০-১৩৪৪০০-১৩৫২০০-১৩৬০০০-১৩৬৮০০-১৩৭৬০০-১৩৮৪০০-১৩৯২০০-১৪০০০০-১৪০৮০০-১৪১৬০০-১৪২৪০০-১৪৩২০০-১৪৪০০০-১৪৪৮০০-১৪৫৬০০-১৪৬৪০০-১৪৭২০০-১৪৮০০০-১৪৮৮০০-১৪৯৬০০-১৫০৪০০-১৫১২০০-১৫২০০০-১৫২৮০০-১৫৩৬০০-১৫৪৪০০-১৫৫২০০-১৫৬০০০-১৫৬৮০০-১৫৭৬০০-১৫৮৪০০-১৫৯২০০-১৬০০০০-১৬০৮০০-১৬১৬০০-১৬২৪০০-১৬৩২০০-১৬৪০০০-১৬৪৮০০-১৬৫৬০০-১৬৬৪০০-১৬৭২০০-১৬৮০০০-১৬৮৮০০-১৬৯৬০০-১৭০৪০০-১৭১২০০-১৭২০০০-১৭২৮০০-১৭৩৬০০-১৭৪৪০০-১৭৫২০০-১৭৬০০০-১৭৬৮০০-১৭৭৬০০-১৭৮৪০০-১৭৯২০০-১৮০০০০-১৮০৮০০-১৮১৬০০-১৮২৪০০-১৮৩২০০-১৮৪০০০-১৮৪৮০০-১৮৫৬০০-১৮৬৪০০-১৮৭২০০-১৮৮০০০-১৮৮৮০০-১৮৯৬০০-১৯০৪০০-১৯১২০০-১৯২০০০-১৯২৮০০-১৯৩৬০০-১৯৪৪০০-১৯৫২০০-১৯৬০০০-১৯৬৮০০-১৯৭৬০০-১৯৮৪০০-১৯৯২০০-২০০০০০-২০০৮০০-২০১৬০০-২০২৪০০-২০৩২০০-২০৪০০০-২০৪৮০০-২০৫৬০০-২০৬৪০০-২০৭২০০-২০৮০০০-২০৮৮০০-২০৯৬০০-২১০৪০০-২১১২০০-২১২০০০-২১২৮০০-২১৩৬০০-২১৪৪০০-২১৫২০০-২১৬০০০-২১৬৮০০-২১৭৬০০-২১৮৪০০-২১৯২০০-২২০০০০-২২০৮০০-২২১৬০০-২২২৪০০-২২৩২০০-২২৪০০০-২২৪৮০০-২২৫৬০০-২২৬৪০০-২২৭২০০-২২৮০০০-২২৮৮০০-২২৯৬০০-২৩০৪০০-২৩১২০০-২৩২০০০-২৩২৮০০-২৩৩৬০০-২৩৪৪০০-২৩৫২০০-২৩৬০০০-২৩৬৮০০-২৩৭৬০০-২৩৮৪০০-২৩৯২০০-২৪০০০০-২৪০৮০০-২৪১৬০০-২৪২৪০০-২৪৩২০০-২৪৪০০০-২৪৪৮০০-২৪৫৬০০-২৪৬৪০০-২৪৭২০০-২৪৮০০০-২৪৮৮০০-২৪৯৬০০-২৫০৪০০-২৫১২০০-২৫২০০০-২৫২৮০০-২৫৩৬০০-২৫৪৪০০-২৫৫২০০-২৫৬০০০-২৫৬৮০০-২৫৭৬০০-২৫৮৪০০-২৫৯২০০-২৬০০০০-২৬০৮০০-২৬১৬০০-২৬২৪০০-২৬৩২০০-২৬৪০০০-২৬৪৮০০-২৬৫৬০০-২৬৬৪০০-২৬৭২০০-২৬৮০০০-২৬৮৮০০-২৬৯৬০০-২৭০৪০০-২৭১২০০-২৭২০০০-২৭২৮০০-২৭৩৬০০-২৭৪৪০০-২৭৫২০০-২৭৬০০০-২৭৬৮০০-২৭৭৬০০-২৭৮৪০০-২৭৯২০০-২৮০০০০-২৮০৮০০-২৮১৬০০-২৮২৪০০-২৮৩২০০-২৮৪০০০-২৮৪৮০০-২৮৫৬০০-২৮৬৪০০-২৮৭২০০-২৮৮০০০-২৮৮৮০০-২৮৯৬০০-২৯০৪০০-২৯১২০০-২৯২০০০-২৯২৮০০-২৯৩৬০০-২৯৪৪০০-২৯৫২০০-২৯৬০০০-২৯৬৮০০-২৯৭৬০০-২৯৮৪০০-২৯৯২০০-৩০০০০০-৩০০৮০০-৩০১৬০০-৩০২৪০০-৩০৩২০০-৩০৪০০০-৩০৪৮০০-৩০৫৬০০-৩০৬৪০০-৩০৭২০০-৩০৮০০০-৩০৮৮০০-৩০৯৬০০-৩১০৪০০-৩১১২০০-৩১২০০০-৩১২৮০০-৩১৩৬০০-৩১৪৪০০-৩১৫২০০-৩১৬০০০-৩১৬৮০০-৩১৭৬০০-৩১৮৪০০-৩১৯২০০-৩২০০০০-৩২০৮০০-৩২১৬০০-৩২২৪০০-৩২৩২০০-৩২৪০০০-৩২৪৮০০-৩২৫৬০০-৩২৬৪০০-৩২৭২০০-৩২৮০০০-৩২৮৮০০-৩২৯৬০০-৩৩০৪০০-৩৩১২০০-৩৩২০০০-৩৩২৮০০-৩৩৩৬০০-৩৩৪৪০০-৩৩৫২০০-৩৩৬০০০-৩৩৬৮০০-৩৩৭৬০০-৩৩৮৪০০-৩৩৯২০০-৩৪০০০০-৩৪০৮০০-৩৪১৬০০-৩৪২৪০০-৩৪৩২০০-৩৪৪০০০-৩৪৪৮০০-৩৪৫৬০০-৩৪৬৪০০-৩৪৭২০০-৩৪৮০০০-৩৪৮৮০০-৩৪৯৬০০-৩৫০৪০০-৩৫১২০০-৩৫২০০০-৩৫২৮০০-৩৫৩৬০০-৩৫৪৪০০-৩৫৫২০০-৩৫৬০০০-৩৫৬৮০০-৩৫৭৬০০-৩৫৮৪০০-৩৫৯২০০-৩৬০০০০-৩৬০৮০০-৩৬১৬০০-৩৬২৪০০-৩৬৩২০০-৩৬৪০০০-৩৬৪৮০০-৩৬৫৬০০-৩৬৬৪০০-৩৬৭২০০-৩৬৮০০০-৩৬৮৮০০-৩৬৯৬০০-৩৭০৪০০-৩৭১২০০-৩৭২০০০-৩৭২৮০০-৩৭৩৬০০-৩৭৪৪০০-৩৭৫২০০-৩৭৬০০০-৩৭৬৮০০-৩৭৭৬০০-৩৭৮৪০০-৩৭৯২০০-৩৮০০০০-৩৮০৮০০-৩৮১৬০০-৩৮২৪০০-৩৮৩২০০-৩৮৪০০০-৩৮৪৮০০-৩৮৫৬০০-৩৮৬৪০০-৩৮৭২০০-৩৮৮০০০-৩৮৮৮০০-৩৮৯৬০০-৩৯০৪০০-৩৯১২০০-৩৯২০০০-৩৯২৮০০-৩৯৩৬০০-৩৯৪৪০০-৩৯৫২০০-৩৯৬০০০-৩৯৬৮০০-৩৯৭৬০০-৩৯৮৪০০-৩৯৯২০০-৪০০০০০-৪০০৮০০-৪০১৬০০-৪০২৪০০-৪০৩২০০-৪০৪০০০-৪০৪৮০০-৪০৫৬০০-৪০৬৪০০-৪০৭২০০-৪০৮০০০-৪০৮৮০০-৪০৯৬০০-৪১০৪০০-৪১১২০০-৪১২০০০-৪১২৮০০-৪১৩৬০০-৪১৪৪০০-৪১৫২০০-৪১৬০০০-৪১৬৮০০-৪১৭৬০০-৪১৮৪০০-৪১৯২০০-৪২০০০০-৪২০৮০০-৪২১৬০০-৪২২৪০০-৪২৩২০০-৪২৪০০০-৪২৪৮০০-৪২৫৬০০-৪২৬৪০০-৪২৭২০০-৪২৮০০০-৪২৮৮০০-৪২৯৬০০-৪৩০৪০০-৪৩১২০০-৪৩২০০০-৪৩২৮০০-৪৩৩৬০০-৪৩৪৪০০-৪৩৫২০০-৪৩৬০০০-৪৩৬৮০০-৪৩৭৬০০-৪৩৮৪০০-৪৩৯২০০-৪৪০০০০-৪৪০৮০০-৪৪১৬০০-৪৪২৪০০-৪৪৩২০০-৪৪৪০০০-৪৪৪৮০০-৪৪৫৬০০-৪৪৬৪০০-৪৪৭২০০-৪৪৮০০০-৪৪৮৮০০-৪৪৯৬০০-৪৫০৪০০-৪৫১২০০-৪৫২০০০-৪৫২৮০০-৪৫৩৬০০-৪৫৪৪০০-৪৫৫২০০-৪৫৬০০০-৪৫৬৮০০-৪৫৭৬০০-৪৫৮৪০০-৪৫৯২০০-৪৬০০০০-৪৬০৮০০-৪৬১৬০০-৪৬২৪০০-৪৬৩২০০-৪৬৪০০০-৪৬৪৮০০-৪৬৫৬০০-৪৬৬৪০০-৪৬৭২০০-৪৬৮০০০-৪৬৮৮০০-৪৬৯৬০০-৪৭০৪০০-৪৭১২০০-৪৭২০০০-৪৭২৮০০-৪৭৩৬০০-৪৭৪৪০০-৪৭৫২০০-৪৭৬০০০-৪৭৬৮০০-৪৭৭৬০০-৪৭৮৪০০-৪৭৯২০০-৪৮০০০০-৪৮০৮০০-৪৮১৬০০-৪৮২৪০০-৪৮৩২০০-৪৮৪০০০-৪৮৪৮০০-৪৮৫৬০০-৪৮৬৪০০-৪৮৭২০০-৪৮৮০০০-৪৮৮৮০০-৪৮৯৬০০-৪৯০৪০০-৪৯১২০০-৪৯২০০০-৪৯২৮০০-৪৯৩৬০০-৪৯৪৪০০-৪৯৫২০০-৪৯৬০০০-৪৯৬৮০০-৪৯৭৬০০-৪৯৮৪০০-৪৯৯২০০-৫০০০০০-৫০০৮০০-৫০১৬০০-৫০২৪০০-৫০৩২০০-৫০৪০০০-৫০৪৮০০-৫০৫৬০০-৫০৬৪০০-৫০৭২০০-৫০৮০০০-৫০৮৮০০-৫০৯৬০০-৫১০৪০০-৫১১২০০-৫১২০০০-৫১২৮০০-৫১৩৬০০-৫১৪৪০০-৫১৫২০০-৫১৬০০০-৫১৬৮০০-৫১৭৬০০-৫১৮৪০০-৫১৯২০০-৫২০০০০-৫২০৮০০-৫২১৬০০-৫২২৪০০-৫২৩২০ |