

# The tale of a missing pond

AKLAKUR RAHMAN AKASH

What looks like a garbage dumping ground near the Savar Bazar Bus Stand actually used to be a pond, though this might be hard to believe now.

On another 40 decimal land of the pond's embankment, an aesthetic "model mosque" has been constructed.

What's more, the upazila administration has also sent a proposal to the ministry concerned for constructing the Upazila Muktiyoddha Complex on the pond's land.

Due to this sustained onslaught on the water body, the few trees that surrounded it have died.

Since 1972, the 2.52-acre pond was leased out to the Horticulture Center, but the lease expired and was not renewed in the last two years. The authorities of the centre constructed brick boundary walls on three sides of the pond except the eastern side.

Contacted, MMA Salam, deputy director of the Horticulture wing of the Department of Agricultural Extension, told The Daily Star that the pond was being used by the Horticulture Center on lease from the district administration. But since that stopped in 2019, the pond has turned into a garbage dump.

Resident of the neighbourhood Karim Mia told this correspondent, "There's no way to tell this is a pond, with the sheer volume of garbage dumped in it. Its stench has spread across the area."

However, despite allegations, the municipal authorities and Roads and Highways Department (RHD) denied their involvement in ruining of the



The 2.52-acre government pond has basically turned into garbage dump now, with no trace of the waterbody it once used to be. This photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: STAR

pond.

Asked about the soil piled up beside the pond to facilitate road development work, Maruf Hasan, sub-divisional engineer of the RHD (Dhaka), said the department had no choice but to do it, but will soon remove it.

Some have raised fingers at the Savar municipality for continued garbage dumping into the pond. Contacted, Mayor Haji Abdul Gani, said, "None of our employees have been asked to dump garbage there. We have a separate spot for that."

However, a notice has been issued by the municipality to stop dumping garbage in the pond, he claimed. Meanwhile, Savar UNO Mazharul Islam said when the municipality was asked to stop the dumping it assured positively. "As the road development

work is going on, the RHD has piled some soil on the pond's land, but they too have assured us of its removal soon," he said.

Asked about future plans for the pond, Mazharul Islam said, "As the pond is not in its previous state and has already been filled up, we have taken up plans on using its land properly."

"Since we couldn't find a place for the Muktiyoddha Complex, we have decided to build it here. We also have plans to beautify the area by renovating the pond."

According to sources, there once used to be a total of 58 government ponds in Savar.

But due to poor monitoring, most of these ponds have been filled up, with only 25 remaining, all of whom were leased out by the administration.

# HC questions ACC action

Asks why Tangail AL leader's name was dropped from probe

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday questioned the legality of the Anti-Corruption Commission's action over dropping Tangail Awami League leader M Shibly Sadik's name from an inquiry into the Tk 27 lakh corruption allegation against him.

The HC bench of Justice Md Nazrul Islam Talukder and Justice KM Zahid Sarwar Kajol issued a rule asking the ACC and Shibly to explain in three weeks why the ACC action should not be declared illegal.

The rule was issued following a petition filed by Supreme Court lawyer M Ashraful Islam challenging the ACC's action.

Shibly, general secretary of Tangail's Delduar upazila unit of AL, allegedly embezzled Tk 27 lakh from relief programmes and reports of it were published in the newspapers in 2017, said the petitioner.

ACC deleted Shibly's name from the inquiry and closed it on January 25, 2018, for a mysterious reason, which is illegal and unconstitutional, the lawyer mentioned in the petition.

# Overnight downpour submerges Rangpur city

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Residents of Rangpur city had to wade through knee to waist-deep water yesterday, as the roads and alleys of most areas were inundated, following a deluge of rainfall overnight. City dwellers blamed the poor drainage system for the situation.

According to the Meteorological Department in Rangpur, the office recorded at least 265 millimetres of rainfall in 24 hours in the district since Sunday 9pm; 222 mm was recorded in just seven hours from 12am.

During a visit to different places -- including Jhummapara, Kamarpara, Babukha, Kamalkasna, Mahiganj, Botla, Mulatol, Munshipara, Gomostapara, Khalifapara, Nagar Mirganj, Hosenbazar, Sardarpara, Adarshapara and Masterpara -- this correspondent found that locals were struggling to keep water out of their houses and shop.

Water at many areas started receding from yesterday noon.

Mezbahul Islam, a resident of Senpara, said the ground floor of all houses there

were submerged after seven hours of rainfall. Such a situation could have been avoided, if the Shyamasundari and KD canals were kept clean.

Both canals have been choked due to uncontrolled encroachment, he said.

Tuhin Wadud -- head of Begum Rokeya University's Bangla department and founder director of Riverine People, an organisation that works to protect rivers -- said the two canals are Rangpur's lifeline. The 16-kilometre long Shyamasundari canal already lost its water-flow, as Rangpur City Corporation (RCC) failed to protect it by removing illegal structures.

Rangpur city is surrounded by multiple rivers. "Such waterlogging in the city area is due to river grabbing," he said.

RCC Mayor Mostafizar Rahman, however, said steps had been taken to end waterlogging in the city. He claimed that after the downpour, rainwater drained out within a short time.

Rangpur city dwellers witnessed a similar scenario on September 27 last year, when the entire city was submerged due to record 349 mm of rainfall.



Rangpur city dwellers had to face alleys full of murky water right after stepping out of their homes. The Met office recorded at least 265 mm of rainfall in 24 hours in the district since Sunday 9pm. This photo was taken from Jhummapara area.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

# Vaccination

FROM PAGE 3

Meanwhile, a section of students have express their dissatisfaction over the decision to open the halls only for a select few.

"We have had in-person exams. Most students in our class are in Dhaka now. Why is it that the authorities are only allowing seniors into the halls?" asked Ahrar Hossain, a third-year student of SM hall.

Earlier on October 1, a group of students forcefully entered the Amar Ekushey Hall after breaking the padlock at the entrance. DU authorities have formed a probe committee to investigate the incident.

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# GRAFT CASE AGAINST BABAR Verdict on Oct 12

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday fixed October 12 to deliver the judgment of the graft case filed against former state minister for home affairs Lutfozzaman Babar.

Judge Md Shahidul Islam of the Special Judge's Court-7 of Dhaka set the date upon the completion of the closing arguments.

A total of seven prosecution witnesses gave statements before the court earlier. The ACC filed the case against Babar with Ramna Model Police Station on January

13, 2008, accusing him of amassing illegal wealth worth Tk 7.591 crore.

ACC submitted the charge sheet to the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court of Dhaka on July 16, 2008. The trial court framed charges on August 12, 2008.

On October 30 of 2007, Babar was sentenced to 17 years' rigorous imprisonment for possessing illegal firearms at his Gulshan residence in the capital.

Previously, Babar was also sentenced to death in the 10-truck arms haul and August 21 grenade attack cases.

# An oppressive tool

FROM PAGE 3

"People use different oppressive modes and fatwa is just one of the religious tools they have on their hands to control women who go outside the box or norms that the clerics have decided for womenfolk," she said.

Most fatwas had to do with

land, property, and position rather than religion, she added.

The panel discussed the Taliban in Afghanistan, caste-based sexual violence in India, attacks on feminists in Pakistan and Bangladesh, and threw light on how religious extremism targets women first and most of all.

# Bangladesh to get 25 lakh more Pfizer vaccines

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh is set to receive over 25 lakh more doses of Pfizer vaccine from the USA.

A total of 25,08,480 lakh doses are expected to reach Dhaka in three shipments, according to a press release signed by Moidul Islam, information officer at the health ministry.

The first shipment of 6,25,950 doses, carried by an Emirate Airlines craft, was scheduled to land at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport at 11:20pm last night under Covax facilities, said the press release.

The second shipment of 12,56,580 doses is expected to reach the country at 12pm today.

The third shipment of 6,25,950 doses is scheduled to land at 11:20pm on the same day.

Officials of health ministry, health directorate, CMSD and airport authorities will be present there to receive the vaccines.

# Must nationalise education

FROM PAGE 3

should ensure that non-government teachers get similar salaries, pensions, annual increment, house rent, medical allowance, and full festival allowance enjoyed by government teachers.

The non-government teachers also demanded appointment in important positions under education sector administrations, like National University, Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education, education boards, and others.

Md Ishaque Hossain, chairperson of Bangladesh College Teachers' Association; AKM Abdullah, acting secretary general of the organisation; and Harunur Rashid, general secretary of Bangladesh Principals' Council attended the press conference, among others.

World Teachers' Day is observed annually on October 5 to celebrate all teachers around the globe, commemorating the anniversary of the adoption of the 1966 ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers.

# Momen congratulates

FROM PAGE 3

Bhabanipur Assembly by-polls on Sunday by a record margin of 58,832 votes against Priyanka Tibrewal of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

This victory makes Banerjee a member of

the West Bengal Legislative Assembly and will allow her to continue as chief minister of West Bengal.

She was unanimously elected chief minister by the Trinamool Congress legislature party in May 2021.

**Expression of Interest (EOI)**  
Prequalification of Retailers and Food Wholesalers for WFP Cox's Bazar  
Ref. CXB21NF01EOI

In Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, WFP provides assistance to displaced Rohingyas through national retail. The payment modality is via WFP Food Assistance Cards. With these cards, beneficiaries receive an entitlement that they can use to purchase a variety of perishable and non-perishable food and non-food items (bathing and laundry soap etc.) from the WFP-established Electronic-Voucher outlets.

**Retail partners will be responsible for:**

- Procurement of food (and some non-food items). WFP contracted retailers will be encouraged to procure fresh and perishable items from local producers in the Cox's Bazar district to support the local economy.
- Implementation of a full logistics plan to transport the commodities to the Cox's Bazar district (Ukhiya & Teknaf).
- Running the distribution points (Electronic-Voucher shops) in line with the humanitarian principles/code of conduct. Strict food quality and safety standards must be implemented and maintained at all stages of the supply chain.

Interested and reputable organizations working in the food retail/wholesale business sector, who have the supply chain capacity to provide the services as mentioned above, are kindly requested to submit their Expression of Interest to the email address: [coxsbazar.procurement@wfp.org](mailto:coxsbazar.procurement@wfp.org) by the mentioned deadline.

**Minimum Requirements:**

- Meets all legal requirements for a retailer contract with WFP (Legal registration, Trade License, VAT etc.) or has the ability to acquire all required legal licenses needed for companies to trade in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh.
- Company with a minimum of three years' experience as an established business; (retail business experience is preferred) with good understanding of supply chain of food commodity market in Bangladesh.
- Company accepts WFP's payment terms and conditions.
- Ability to provide staff training on retail operations and in-store services and / or store maintenance.
- Ability to provide store operations manuals (including back office, logistics, etc.) in the required language.
- Ability to meet food quality standards and WFP's monitoring and inspection requirements.
- Readiness to allocate staff to outlet locations as per the demand of operation.
- Willingness to improve service quality by learning and applying data analytics for running the retail business efficiently; maintain uninterrupted food supply, delivering high quality service whilst maintaining cleanliness and hygiene levels.
- Ability and willingness to procure locally produced fresh food (vegetables, eggs, chicken, live fish etc.) from the local farmers.
- Ability to adhere to WFP's humanitarian principles and standards, including no discrimination against beneficiaries, data protection requirements.

**Deadline for registration: 25 October 2021 at 16:00 hrs Dhaka time.**

# A life dedicated

FROM PAGE 3

Shedding light on his activism, Bangladesh Mahila Parishad President Fauzia Moslem said Muniruzzaman would search for the essence of humanity within every individual.

Recalling Muniruzzaman's contribution as a newspaper editor, Sampadak Parishad President and The Daily Star Editor and Publisher Mahfuz Anam said he was blessed enough to have had the opportunity to work with Muniruzzaman at the parishad (council) on various issues affecting the journalist community.

Anam said Muniruzzaman's absence could be felt deeply.

Muniruzzaman's life-long friend and President of Communist Party of Bangladesh Mujahidul Islam Selim said Muniruzzaman was an avid reader and that his reading habit was not limited to any particular genre.

He used to write secretly from his teenage years, recalled Selim.

Liberation War Museum Trustee Mofidul Hoque said apart from being a successful journalist, Muniruzzaman was also involved in various movements, from getting involved in politics to working for trade unions.

He succeeded at whatever task he got involved in, added Mofidul.

Justice Mohammad Mamtaz Uddin Ahmed (retd), former chairman of Bangladesh Press Council, said Muniruzzaman will be well remembered for his work.

Muniruzzaman's elder brother journalist Khandaker Rafiquzzaman expressed his gratitude for publishing the memorial book.

Among others, Muniruzzaman's wife Rukaiya Khatun, noted economist Prof MM Akash, Dhaka University's teacher Prof Kaberi Gayen, Liberation War Museum Trustee Sarwar Ali, and Daily Sangbad News Editor Kazi Rafique spoke at the event, moderated by Dilwar Hossain.

**Death Anniversary**

In observance of the 33<sup>rd</sup> Death Anniversary of former Secretary M A Rashid, a Milad Mehfil will be held on 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2021 (Tuesday), after Maghreb Prayers at the United House, Unity Club at Satarkul. Relatives, friends and well-wishers are requested to attend and pray for Magferat and eternal peace of his departed soul. Those who are unable to attend are kindly requested to pray for him. Contact: 01951155077.

**ডেলটা মেডিকেল কলেজ ডেন্টাল ইউনিট**  
২৩/১, প্রিন্সিপ্যাল আবুল কাশেম সড়ক (সাবেক দারুস সালাম রোড), মিরপুর-১, ঢাকা-১২১৬।  
ফোন : ৯০২৫০০, ৯০২৫০২, ৯০২৫০৩ ফ্যাক্স : ৯০২৫০২১ | মেইল : ৯০২৫০৩০৯, ৯০২৫০৩১০, ৯০২৫০৩১১, ৯০২৫০৩১২, ৯০২৫০৩১৩, ৯০২৫০৩১৪, ৯০২৫০৩১৫, ৯০২৫০৩১৬, ৯০২৫০৩১৭, ৯০২৫০৩১৮, ৯০২৫০৩১৯

**২০২০-২০২১ইং শিক্ষাবর্ষে বিডিএস কোর্সে ছাত্র-ছাত্রী ভর্তি বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকারের স্বাস্থ্য ও পরিবার কল্যাণ মন্ত্রণালয়ের অনুমোদন প্রাপ্ত এবং ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের অধিভুক্ত এবং বিএমএডভিসি ও বিসিপিএস কর্তৃক স্বীকৃত ডেলটা মেডিকেল কলেজ ডেন্টাল ইউনিটে ২০২০-২০২১ইং শিক্ষাবর্ষে ১ম বর্ষ বিডিএস কোর্সে (৮ম ব্যাচ) ছাত্র-ছাত্রী ভর্তির জন্য কলেজের নির্ধারিত ফরমে দরখাস্ত আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

**ভর্তির যোগ্যতা :-**

- বাংলাদেশ মেডিকেল এন্ড ডেন্টাল কাউন্সিল এবং স্বাস্থ্য ও পরিবার কল্যাণ মন্ত্রণালয় কর্তৃক প্রণীত নীতিমালার আলোকে স্বাস্থ্য ও পরিবার কল্যাণ মন্ত্রণালয়ে গৃহীত সিদ্ধান্ত মোতাবেক স্বাস্থ্য অধিদপ্তরের নিয়ন্ত্রণে জাতীয়ভাবে ১০-০৯-২০২১ তারিখে অনুষ্ঠিত বিডিএস ভর্তি পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণকারী ছাত্র-ছাত্রীদের মধ্যে যে সকল ছাত্র-ছাত্রী উক্ত লিখিত পরীক্ষায় ১০০ নম্বরের মধ্যে ন্যূনতম ৪০ বা তদুর্দ্ধ প্রাপ্ত নম্বর (সরকারীভাবে বিডিএস ভর্তির যোগ্যতা অর্জনকারী) পেয়েছে কেবলমাত্র তারা ই ভর্তির জন্য আবেদন করতে পারবে।
- বিদেশী ছাত্র- ছাত্রী, অস্বচ্ছল ও মেধাবী এবং মুক্তিযোদ্ধা কোটার সরকারী নিয়মানুযায়ী ছাত্র-ছাত্রী ভর্তি করা হবে।

**ভর্তি ফরম সংগ্রহ ও জমা দান :** ০৫ই অক্টোবর ২০২১ইং তারিখ থেকে ১৪ই অক্টোবর ২০২১ইং তারিখ (সাপ্তাহিক ছুটির দিনসহ) পর্যন্ত অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে (প্রত্যহ সকাল ৮টা হতে বিকাল ৫.০০ টা পর্যন্ত) নম্বান ১,০০০/- (এক হাজার) টাকা প্রদান (অফেরতযোগ্য) সাপেক্ষে ভর্তির ফরম সংগ্রহ ও জমা দেয়া যাবে।

**ফলাফল প্রকাশ ও ভর্তি সংক্রান্ত পরবর্তী করণীয় :** ১৮ই অক্টোবর, ২০২১ ইং তারিখ বেলা ১১:০০টায়ে কলেজের নোটিশ বোর্ড, কলেজের নিজস্ব ওয়েব সাইটে (www.dlmch.edu.bd) প্রকাশিত হবে।

**ভর্তি কার্যক্রম চলাবে ২** ৩শে অক্টোবর ২০২১ইং তারিখ হতে ২৮শে অক্টোবর ২০২১ইং তারিখ (সাপ্তাহিক ছুটির দিনসহ) পর্যন্ত।

**বিশেষ :** ছাত্র-ছাত্রীদের জন্য পৃথক হোস্টেলের সু-ব্যবস্থা আছে। **ব্রি. জে. অধ্যাপক ডা. দীপক কুমার পাল চৌধুরী**  
অধ্যক্ষ  
ডেলটা মেডিকেল কলেজ।

**DHAKA PALLI BIDYUT SAMITY-1  
PALASHBARI, SAVAR, DHAKA  
Invitation for Tenders.**

01. Procuring Entity Name	: Dhaka Palli Bidyut Samity-1, Palashbari, Savar, Dhaka.		
02. Procuring Entity District	: Dhaka.		
03. Invitation for	: Computerized Bidyut Bill Form		
04. Invitation Ref. No.	: Memo No.27.12.2672.501.01.022.21-1862, Date:04/10/2021.		
05. Procurement Method	: Open Tendering Method (OTM) for Frame Work Contract, NCB		
06. Budget and source of funds	: PBS's Own Fund.		
07. Tender Package No	: GF-21-22-01		
08. Tender Publication Date	: 05/10/2021		
09. Tender last selling Date & Time	: Date: 01/11/2021 (During Office Time)		
10. Tender receiving & closing Date & Time	: Date: 02/11/2021, Time: 12: 00 Noon (Bangladesh- Betar time)		
11. Tender Opening Date & time	: Date: 02/11/2021., Time: 12:30 PM.		
12. Name & Address of the Office(s)	: Address		
(a) Selling Tender Document	: 1) Senior General Manager, Dhaka Palli Bidyut Samity-1, Palashbari, Savar, Dhaka. 2) Director, PBS Monitoring & Management Operation (Central) Directorate, Bangladesh Rural Electrification Board (8 <sup>th</sup> Floor), Head Office Building, Nikunja-2, Joarshahara, Khilkhet, Dhaka-1229, Bangladesh.		
(b) Receiving Tender Document	: Brig. General Sabih Uddin Ahmed Auditorium (1 <sup>st</sup> floor), Bangladesh Rural Electrification Board, Head Office Building, Nikunja-2, Joarshahara, Khilkhet, Dhaka-1229.		
(c) Opening Tender Document	: Brig. General Sabih Uddin Ahmed Auditorium (1 <sup>st</sup> floor), Bangladesh Rural Electrification Board, Head Office Building, Nikunja-2, Joarshahara, Khilkhet, Dhaka-1229 (Intending Tenderer or their authorized representative may choose to attend at the time of opening the tenders).		
13. Pre-Tender Meeting Date & Time (Optional)	Brig. General Sabih Uddin Ahmed Auditorium (1 <sup>st</sup> floor), Bangladesh Rural Electrification Board, Head Office Building, Nikunja-2, Joarshahara, Khilkhet, Dhaka-1229	Date	Time
		17/10/2021	11.00 AM
14. Eligibility of Tenderer	: i. Only Bangladeshi Tenderers are eligible, ii. Tenderers' must have minimum 05 (Five) years of General experience in the supply of Goods and related services, iii. Tenderers' must have 03 (Three) years of supply record of printing & packaging materials in Govt./Semi-Govt./ Autonomous/Corporations/Foreign missions/ international organizations/ Hospitals/Clinic/reputed private organizations. [years counting backward from the date of publication of IFT in the newspaper] iv. All other terms and conditions stated in the concerned tender document.		
15. Brief Description of Goods	: Tender Package No. Tender Lot No. For the Goods of Tender Security Amount (Tk.) Delivery Period & Places		
	GF-21-22-01	GF-21-22-01.001	Computerized Bidyut Bill Form 50,00,000.00 (Fifty Lac Taka Only) As Per Delivery Schedule
16. Regarding Tender Document	: The Tender Document may be purchased by the interested tenderers on submission of a written application to the Senior General Manager, Dhaka Palli Bidyut Samity-1, Palashbari, Savar, Dhaka and upon payment of a non refundable fee Tk. 5000.00 (Five Thousand) each. The method of payment will be by Pay order / Bank draft in favour of Senior General Manager, Dhaka Palli Bidyut Samity-1. No Tender Document will be sent by Courier or mail. One Tender Document cannot be used for submission of Tender proposal (s) by more than one Tenderer.		
17. Delivery Period	: Delivery period shall begin from the date of signing of contract or on 28 <sup>th</sup> day from the issuing date of Notification of Award (NOA) whichever is earlier.		
18. Special Instruction	: The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without showing any reason.		

Cell No: 01769400024  
Email: [dhakaps01@gmail.com](mailto:dhakaps01@gmail.com)  
[www.pbs1.dhaka.gov.bd](http://www.pbs1.dhaka.gov.bd)

Senior General Manager  
Dhaka Palli Bidyut Samity-1  
Palashbari, Savar, Dhaka.