



As their plea went unheard, the villagers of Mir Deohata village in Tangail's Mirzapur upazila decided to build a concrete bridge on Louhajang river on their own initiative.

PHOTO: STAR

Villagers building bridge on their own

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

People of Mir Deohata village in Mirzapur upazila are constructing a bridge on Louhajang river on their own to ease their longstanding woes.

The villagers have been carrying out the construction works for the last two years voluntarily with their own funds. About forty per cent works of the bridge have already been completed. However, the work now remains stalled as their fund has been exhausted.

The movement of the people of the village and at least ten other adjacent villages to Dhaka and Tangail through Deohata will be easier after the completion of the construction work, locals said.

Mir Deohata village under Gorai union is divided by the Louhajang river. The people of the southern end of the river are to cross the river by boats to go to the upazila headquarters and other places

including Dhaka and Tangail through Deohata Bazar. On the other hand, people of the other side are to carry their agricultural products after crossing the river by boats.

Several villagers said they have been urging the local public representatives for a long period that a concrete bridge be constructed on the river in Mollabari Ghat area for easing their long-standing woes.

As none felt their sufferings and their demand was not met 50 years into the independence, the villagers decided to change their lot on their own, they said.

"We had to pay money and paddy to the boatmen to cross the river over the years. Moreover, the boats were not always available" said Abdul Jalil of the village.

"In this situation, about two years ago, we took a plan to construct a concrete bridge on the

As their demand was not met 50 years into the independence, villagers decided to change their lot on their own.

river and collected money from the villagers for it. The local brick kiln owners donated a truck of bricks for the initiative," he said.

Trader Sohail Rana, also one of the villagers, said after the completion of the construction work, people of Mir Deohata, Araipara, Mondirapara, Budhirpara, Paharpur and Bhaora villages will be able to move to Dhaka and Tangail through Deohata Bazar.

Eight concrete pillars have been erected so far spending around

Tk 20 lakh. The bridge will be 160-foot-long and 11-foot-wide, he said.

"We have done as much as we can but now we need the support of the local lawmaker and upazila parishad chairman to complete the rest of the work," said Mohammad Ali, a member of Gorai Union Parishad (UP) and also one of the main organisers of the bridge construction initiative.

Asked about the matter, Arifur Rahman, engineer of Local Government and Engineering Department (LGED) in Mirzapur, said his office knows nothing about the bridge construction.

Mir Enayet Hossain Montu, chairman of Mirzapur Upazila Parishad, said that he was aware of the villagers' initiative.

"Financial support will be provided from the upazila parishad to make the initiative a success," he added.

HC enquires about it all

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Our Dinajpur correspondent reports that police took control of the area using rubber bullets and teargas canisters. The incident left 20 people, including five policemen, injured.

Abu Maruf Hossain, deputy commissioner (crime) of Rangpur Metropolitan Police, said they filed two cases -- one over seizure of drugs and the other over attacks on

their properties and obstruction of police duty.

Meanwhile, the victim's brother, Mortaza Rahman, filed an unnatural death case with Haragach Police Station early yesterday.

A police team raided Dalalhaat area on Monday evening and detained Tajul on charge of possession of heroin, said his younger brother Lotus Mia, adding

that police tortured his brother.

The family members later learnt that Tajul was dead.

Shawkat Ali Sarkar, officer-in-charge of the police station, said Tajul fell sick soon after police arrested and handcuffed him. The officers then left the spot leaving him. Police later came to know about his death.

He added that Tajul was not tortured.

Sit-in before Pak High Commission

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Mukti Bahini today disconnected the telecommunications between Charkai and Ghoragat in Rangpur district. In another operation, freedom fighters ambushed Pak troops and irregular forces near Daoodpur area and killed seven Pak soldiers and five irregulars. In this operation a freedom fighter lost his life.

ON THE WAR FRONT

Mukti Bahini today disrupted electricity supply in Moulvi Bazar town by destroying electric supply line.

One army truck was blown up by Mukti Bahini today on Bakshiganj-Kamalpur road of Mymensingh district. Nine enemy soldiers were

killed in the operation.

The naval commandos of Mukti Bahini sank an oil tanker carrying 1000 tons kerosene oil and approximately 30 tons of gasoline in Chittagong Port today. There were explosions leading to fire in the engine room which engulfed the ship. The tanker was completely sank in the harbor.

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CJ questions anticipatory bail orders

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bench of the SC's Appellate Division for hearing and disposing of the cases yesterday morning.

Lawyer Ruhul Quddus requested the apex court to withdraw an order passed by its chamber judge that stayed the HC bail order in a case.

The SC refused to interfere in the chamber judge's stay order.

Ruhul Quddus said a lawyer has to work very hard for getting an order of anticipatory bail from the HC, but the state moves petition before the SC for its stay.

He also urged the apex court to change the Appellate Division Rules (regarding the powers of the full bench and chamber judge over staying the HC orders).

"When we came to practise [law], we didn't see the state approaching to the Appellate Division for staying the ad-interim orders of the High Court Division," the lawyer said.

The chief justice said the HC in the first order of a case has allowed the borrower to return the bank concerned only the borrowed money in 20 years without any interest on loan.

Three HC benches have passed such type of orders, he said, adding that the full court meeting (of the SC) has discussed these matters, but passing such orders by the HC have not been stopped yet.

"Have you seen earlier that the High Court grants anticipatory bail

in so many cases? Anticipatory bail is granted by every [HC] bench concerned," he said.

Ruhul Quddus said a case is very easily disposed of at the Appellate Division though a lawyer has to sweat blood to secure bail from the HC.

Justice Muhammad Imman Ali, a senior judge of the Appellate Division, asked lawyer Ruhul Quddus whether he considers unjustified the apex court orders that stayed the HC bail in rape and murder cases.

"The High Court is granting bail in murder cases. Will not the state move to the Appellate Division against those orders of bail?" he asked.

Six temples vandalised in Naogaon

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Gaziur Rahman, additional superintendent of police in the district, said they got some clues which would help them arrest the criminals soon.

Quoting locals, Upazila Nirbahi Officer Md Nazmul Hamid Reza said the criminals came from outside and fled after committing the vandalism

in the dark of the night.

Some 100 Hindu Saha and Burman families have been living peacefully with Muslims in the two villages for more than 50 years, he said.

Local Hindu families said a sense of panic gripped them after the incident.

The local administration, however, assured them of providing security, they said.

Meanwhile, a court in Feni yesterday granted police one day to grill four accused in a case filed over vandalising and looting Hindu temples and houses in the town on October 16.

6 of a family

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I heard a big bang and the door of the toilet was blown off," said Limon Sheikh, one of Sajida's sons.

Following the huge blast, the main door of the flat, F-2, was blown off. Mattresses of two bedrooms were burnt. On the stairs, victims' burnt clothes were found while visiting the spot.

The eight-member family rented the flat at "Moriun Villa" on Community Centre Road of Colonel Jones four months ago for Tk 9,000, Limon said.

After moving into the flat they learnt of the gas accident on November 8 last year. "My father wanted to move out right away but the landlord insisted we stay," he said.

A six-member probe committee formed following last year's incident found the explosion was caused by gas leakage. And yet, the landowner took no steps to arrest gas leakages.

The ventilation system of the flat is very poor and due to the windows staying shut, gas accumulated and triggered the explosion, said Anupam Datta, deputy general manager of Karnaphuli Gas Distribution's engineering department.

Police took in landlord Mamta Mia, also the owner of Hotel Saimun in Alongkar Moor area, for interrogation.

Good mosquitoes

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affect them".

Since 2017, a joint study conducted by WMP at Australia's Monash University and Indonesia's Gadjah Mada University has been releasing lab-bred Wolbachia mosquitoes across a few dengue fever 'red zones' in the Indonesian city of Yogyakarta.

The trial results, published by the New England Journal of Medicine in June, showed that deploying mosquitoes with Wolbachia reduced dengue cases by as much as 77% and hospitalisations by up to 86%.

Blasts, gunfire

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second, larger explosion, he said.

He said it was unclear whether the blasts and the gunfire were inside the sprawling hospital complex.

Islamic State, which has carried out a series of attacks on mosques and other targets since the Taliban's seizure of Kabul in August, mounted a complex attack on the hospital in 2017, killing more than 30 people.

Ridding croplands of rat menace

Jaypurhat man exterminating rats for over two decades in different districts of Rajshahi division

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Various chemical or organic pesticides are readily available in markets for controlling different insect pests in crop fields. But the solutions available for controlling animal pests such as rats are not as effective.

Seeing the helplessness of farmers in their fight against the rodents, Jaypurhat's Anwar Hossain took on the challenge of killing rats professionally in 1995.

The 55-year-old man, from Bhottapalashi (Tilakpur) village in Akkelpur upazila, has earned quite a reputation over the years across Rajshahi division as a rat exterminator.

Anwar claimed that he earned as many as 30 local and national awards for killing more than 2.5 lakh rats from croplands in different districts of the division in the last 26 years.

All these years, he continues to use different innovative traps to catch and kill rats from croplands or homes in exchange for the same payment -- half a kilogram of rice for each kill.

The livelihood earned from the odd trade has been sufficient enough for Anwar to support his family and raise his two children. His son is now a job holder and his daughter has been married off.

He said the idea of being a rat exterminator came to his mind when he used to herd livestock for others during his young age, when some impoverished people used to extract rice from rat holes

in rice fields.

Seeing them making a living out of sale of the unhusked rice, which they had collected from rat holes, Anwar started doing the same.

But later on, after realising that a huge amount of grains and other crops, including potato, are being destroyed by the pest, he decided to start exterminating it instead. "I used to get a huge amount of rice from rat holes in rice fields," said Anwar, who also runs a small grocery shop in his village now.

Local farmer Shafiqul Islam said rat is a destructive pest that ruins rice, potato and many winter crops, especially from September till May; but thanks to Anwar, farmers in the village have a solution to the problem.

Hearing about Anwar's skills, the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) contacted him and teamed up with him to control the menace.

Starting in 2000, they have been paying him Tk 1,500 for every 5,000 kills, Anwar said, adding that he also trained rat extermination techniques to 57 people so far.

According to data from DAE in Jaypurhat, around 90,000 tonnes of crops were saved across the country by exterminating 1.20 crores of rats.

Anwar is a great help in saving crops from the menacing rodents, said Bablu Kumar Sutradhar, deputy director (acting) of DAE in Jaypurhat.



Rat exterminator Anwar Hossain, from Jaypurhat's Akkelpur upazila, displays several of his kills along with a few of the 30 crests and awards. He said he earned the awards for helping farmers save crops from rats in over two decades' time.

PHOTO: STAR

PBI asked to submit

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to submit the investigation report yesterday -- the scheduled date, court sources said.

The Bashundhara MD was made the prime accused for allegedly murdering the victim after raping her, while chairman of the group, Ahmed Akbar Sobhan, and six others were accused of assisting Anvir in committing the offence.

The six other accused are: Ahmed Akbar's wife Afroza Begum, Anvir's wife Sabrina Sayem, model Faria Mahub Piyasha, Saifa Rahman Mim, the flat's landlord Ibrahim Ahmed Ripon and his wife Sharmim.

On September 29, the High Court refused to grant anticipatory bail to Anvir in the case. After police recovered the body of the 21-year-old college student from the flat in

the capital's Gulshan on April 26, her elder sister lodged a case with Gulshan Police Station against Anvir on charges of abetting her suicide.

On July 19, Abul Hasan, investigation officer of that case and also Gulshan Police Station office-in-charge, submitted the final report to the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court of Dhaka.

A Dhaka court accepted the final report and relieved Anvir from the case on August 18.

However, the victim's sister on September 6 filed another case with the Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal-8 of Dhaka against Anvir over the rape and murder of the victim and seven others over assisting the Bashundhara MD in committing the crime.

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Memo No. CEDP/GMMC/2021-2022/G-16/AC-076 Date: 02/11/2021

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e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following package:

Sl. No.	Tender ID No.	Name of goods	Last date and time of tender security submission	Tender closing date & time
1.	624556	Supply and Installation of Air Conditioner (AC) Package-G-16	17-11-2021 1:00pm	17-11-2021 2:00pm

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copy will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, please register on the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>). The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks' branches up to 16-11-2021, 4:00pm. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

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