PHOTO: MINTU DESHWARA

**Instead of enjoying the benefit of an excavation work done on the Dhamai river that runs along their villages -- Patna and Bagerkona in Moulvibazar's Barlekha upazila, many of the inhabitants are spending their own money to remove earth from their front yards and their only road. The earth was dumped there indiscriminately around a year and a half ago by a contractor firm assigned with the excavation work.**

DHAMAI RIVER EXCAVATION

# Road blocked for over a year

MINTU DESHWARA

About four thousand people -- inhabitants of Patna and Bagerkona villages in Moulvibazar's Barlekha upazila -- have been cut off from the closest market and upazila headquarters for the past 18 months, as their lone road lies unusable following excavation of the Dhamai river.

Shahid Brothers, a contractor firm, based in Motijheel of Dhaka, excavated six kilometres of the river under a Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) project titled 'small river, canal and water reservoir project (phase-1)', according to BWDB data.

Beginning in April 2019 and completing in May 2020, the project cost BWDB Tk 3,23,99,792.

The contractor firm pocketed the entire money, but it carelessly left heaps of excavated earth on nearly one kilometre stretch of the dirt road that runs along the northern bank of the Dhamai river, alleged the villagers and local public representatives.

As a result, people in the two villages, especially schoolgoing children and the elderly, are suffering immensely, they also said.

Sujanagar Union Parishad (UP) Chairman Nasib Ali filed a written complaint in this regard with the upazila nirbahi officer (UNO) of Barlekha in October this year.

Rather than fortifying the river's banks with the excavated earth, the contractor firm caused obstruction in people's movement by dumping the earth haphazardly on their road and front yards along the northern bank of the river.

There have been many instances when the firm sold the earth illegally, the complainant said, adding that both banks of the river are showing signs of erosion already.

Finding no other solution in one and a half years' time, many of the villagers -- whose houses are left inaccessible with piles of earth -- are now removing the earth at their own expense, Nasib Ali told this correspondent.

Sadek Mia, a resident of Patna village, said the road is now unfit for all sorts of vehicles, even for rickshaws and autorickshaws.

The excavation of the Dhamai river is causing sufferings only; no benefit, lamented Babul Mia, another resident of the same village.

Rebutting all allegations, Shahid Brothers' Director Abdus Shahid said upon completion last year, the BWDB acknowledged their work without raising any objection.

The work on the Dhamai river was done by different contractor firms and a particular contractor should not be made liable for errors made by others, he also claimed.

Confirming that the local UP chairman has lodged a complaint against the quality of the work, Khorshed Alam, deputy assistant engineer of BWDB in Barlekha, said villagers are not supposed to spend their own money to solve a problem that is caused by any of their contractors.

According to the contract, the contractors have to level the river banks or the road along the river with excavated earth. Otherwise, they would be made liable of breaching the contract, he added.

Barlekha UNO Khandaker Mudassir bin Ali said after receiving the complaint, he visited the site and found some anomalies.

He also said that he already sent his report to the higher authorities and was awaiting directives in this regard.

# Now they know nothing!

S DILIP ROY

Ruling Awami League (AL) men have allegedly raised Tk 69 lakh from the grassroots of Kurigram's Roumari upazila with fake promises of giving them houses in government-funded housing projects. The allegation of swindling poor people's money has surfaced in Dantbhanga union of the upazila.

According to what could be learnt, AL activist Mokshed Ali of Char Gaytapara village in collusion with Roumari upazila AL's Deputy Publicity Secretary Md Ahsan alias Babu Mandal collected the money from the poor people of the village one and a half years ago promising to enlist their names in the housing project meant for the shelterless. Now Mokshed has gone into hiding while Babu Mandal is in a state of denial.

Akbar Ali, son of late Mofiz Uddin of Char Gaytapara area, said that AL man Mokshed Ali took Tk 36,000 from him using the name of Babu Mandal, who is a cousin of a state minister, promising to give him a house under special allocation. He gave the money a year and a half ago and now Mokshed Ali has fled his home. "I borrowed the money at a high interest hoping to get a house," he said.

Haidar Ali, son of the late Abdus Salam of the same village, said that he paid Tk 39,000 to Mokshed Ali to get enlisted in the housing project.

While taking the money, Mokshed told him that 200 houses would be built for poor families under the special allocation of the government. "I took a loan from an NGO and gave the money. Now there is no house, no money and Mokshed Ali has gone into hiding whereas we can't get close to Babu Mandal as well," he said.

Contacted, Mokshed Ali, on his mobile phone, said that he took around Tk 69 lakh from 200 families and handed it over to Babu Mandal.

He trusted Babu Mandal as he gave a few houses taking money in the village earlier. "Babu Mandal has taken the money from 200 families through me with the assurance that 200 houses will be built with the government's special allocation. I complied with him as he assured me that he would give me the contract of supplying materials for building houses," he said. "Now, I am homeless under the pressure of the deprived families. Babu Mandal and his men are also threatening me in various ways," he said.

Md Ahsan alias Babu Mandal, over the phone, said that he had heard about the allegations but did not know Mokshed Ali.

"It's a conspiracy against me. Attempts are being made to tarnish the reputation of my family," he said.

When asked about the multiple phone call records of Mokshed Ali and Babu Mandal, the latter said that he did not know Mokshed Ali and had never talked to him.

"Maybe someone else had such a conversation using my name. We are also looking for Mokshed Ali," he added.

**A woman sheds tears after being deceived by local AL men who siphoned off her money promising to give her a house meant for the shelterless. The photo was taken from Char Gaytapara village in Kurigram's Roumari upazila.** PHOTO: S DILIP ROY


**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**
Office of the Executive Engineer, DPHE
Lakshmipur District, Lakshmipur

শেখ হাসিনার মূলনীতি
গ্রাম শহরের উন্নতি

Memo No: 46.03.5100.061.07.265.14-367 Date: 16/11/2021

**Re-Tender Notice No. 06 (2021-22)**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Ministry/Division | Local Government Division |
| 2. | Implementing Agency | Department of Public Health Engineering |
| 3. | Project/program name | Project for safe Water Supply Throughout the country (PSWSC). |
| 4. | Tender ID | 628999, 629052, 629074 |
| 5. | **Description of works:** 1. Construction of Community Based Water Supply Scheme at Kamalnagar & Ramgoti Upazila, Lakshmipur. 2. Piped Water Supply Scheme at Kamalnagar Upazila, Lakshmipur District. 3. Piped Water Supply Scheme at Ramgoti Upazila, Lakshmipur District. | |
| 6. | Name, Designation & Address of official inviting tender | Eng. Palash Chandra Das, Executive Engineer DPHE, Lakshmipur District, Tel No: 0381-61405 |
| 7. | This is online tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in the National e-GP portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. Interested person/firms can see details in the website: www.eprocure.gov.bd | |

Eng. Palash Chandra Das
Executive Engineer, DPHE
Lakshmipur District, Lakshmipur

GD-2087



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**Timeline**
Application open : 21.11.2021
Application close : 20.12.2021
Written Test : 23.12.2021 at 10:30am
**Written Test on**
English, Mathematics & Aptitude
**Total seats**: 60
**Application Fee:** BDT 800

**Application procedure:**
→ Application forms and other information are available at room no. 203, 1st floor, IBA Bhaban or download from www.iba-ru.ac.bd. Application fee can be paid in IBA bank account or pay order/Bank draft in favor of 'Director, IBA, RU.'
→ Attested photocopy of all academic certificates, one copy passport and one copy stamp size photographs must be attached with application form during submission.

**Professor Zeennat Ara Begum PhD**
Director
Contact: IBA Office- 0721-711167, 0721-711286
Website: www.iba-ru.ac.bd

D-2086

**This concrete bridge, with its one side subsided, on busy Hulerhat-Sreerumkathi road in Pirojpur Sadar upazila, poses serious risk of collapse.** PHOTO: STAR

# Awful bridge at risk of collapse

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Pirojpur*

An iron-structured concrete bridge on busy Hulerhat-Sreerumkathi road in Pirojpur Sadar upazila remains in an awful condition for long, posing serious risk of collapse anytime.

Roads and Highway Department (RHD) constructed the bridge on a canal at Mulgram village around 25 years back.

The condition of the bridge started getting worse to worsen in the last few years and finally its one side subsided in the canal recently, causing untold sufferings to thousands of people of different villages under Kalakhali union in Sadar upazila and a number of villages of nearby Nesarabad upazila.

"The bridge is very important for thousands of locals as there is no other alternative way to reach the Pirojpur town easily," said Rabiul Islam, a battery-run three-wheeler driver.

Locals said although light vehicles like motorbike and three-wheelers can ply over the bridge till now, it poses serious risk when large vehicles cross it.

They also alleged that sand-carrying vessels ply underneath the bridge frequently and sometimes hit the girder of bridge.

The girder of the bridge needs to be reconstructed immediately, they added.

While talking to this correspondent, Pirojpur RHD Sub Assistant Engineer Mohammad Asaduzzaman said they have sent a development project proposal (DPP) for renovation and construction of four roads, stretching over 76 kilometres, under Pirojpur Sadar, Nazirpur, Nesarabad, Kawkhali and Bhandaria upazilas at an estimated cost of Tk 949 crore.

Twenty nine bridges, including the damaged one at Mulgram village on Hulerhat-Sreerumkathi road, are also included in the project proposal, the engineer further said, adding that they will be able to construct a new bridge at the same location after getting approval of the DPP.


**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**
Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges
Bridges Division
Bangladesh Bridge Authority
Widening of Road and Construction of Elevated Road from Panchabati to Mukterpur Bridge Project
Setu Bhaban, Banani, Dhaka-1212
www.bba.gov.bd

ETC তে টোল দেব
দ্রুত সেতু পার হব

**Invitation for Tender**

IFT No: 50.01.0000.856.14.017.21-249 Date: 17/11/2021

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Ministry/Division | Bridges Division, Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges. | | | |
| 2 | Agency | Bangladesh Bridge Authority. | | | |
| 3 | Procuring entity name | Project Director. | | | |
| 4 | Procuring entity code | Not applicable. | | | |
| 5 | Procuring entity district | Dhaka. | | | |
| 6 | Invitation for | Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Desktop Computer, Printer, Scanner, Laptop and Projector for the Widening of Road and Construction of Elevated Road from Panchabati to Mukterpur Bridge Project. | | | |
| 7 | Invitation Ref. No. | 50.01.0000.856.14.017.21-249 | | | |
| 8 | Date | 17th November, 2021. | | | |
| **KEY INFORMATION** | | | | | |
| 9 | Procurement method | Open Tendering Method (OTM). | | | |
| **FUNDING INFORMATION** | | | | | |
| 10 | Budge and source of funds | GoB (Development Budget). | | | |
| 11 | Development partners (if applicable) | Not applicable. | | | |
| **PARTICULAR INFORMATION** | | | | | |
| 12 | Project/program code ( if applicable) | 224333400. | | | |
| 13 | Project/program name (if applicable) | Widening of Road and Construction of Elevated Road from Panchabati to Mukterpur Bridge Project. | | | |
| 14 | Tender package No. | GD 2.2 | | | |
| 15 | Tender package name | Procurement of Computer and Related Accessories. | | | |
| 16 | Tender publication date | Date: 18th November, 2021. | | | |
| 17 | Tender last selling date | Date: | 07th December, 2021 | Time: | During office hours |
| 18 | Tender closing date and time | Date: | 08th December, 2021 | Time: | 02:30pm |
| 19 | Tender opening date and time | Date: | 08th December, 2021 | Time: | 03:30pm |
| 20 | Name & address of the office(s) | | | | |
| | Selling tender document (principal) | Accounts Section (Room No: 622), Bangladesh Bridge Authority, Setu Bhaban, New Airport Road, Banani, Dhaka. | | | |
| | Selling tender document (others) | Not applicable. | | | |
| | Receiving tender document | Office of the Project Director (Room No: 915), Widening of Road and Construction of Elevated Road from Panchabati to Mukterpur Bridge, Setu Bhaban, New Airport Road, Banani, Dhaka. | | | |
| | Opening tender document | Office of the Project Director (Room No: 915), Widening of Road and Construction of Elevated Road from Panchabati to Mukterpur Bridge, Setu Bhaban, New Airport Road, Banani, Dhaka. | | | |
| 21 | Pre-tender meeting | 30th November, 2021. Time: 11:00am. | | | |
| | Place of pre-tender meeting | Office of the Project Director (Room No: 915), Widening of Road and Construction of Elevated Road from Panchabati to Mukterpur Bridge, Setu Bhaban, New Airport Road, Banani, Dhaka. | | | |
| **INFORMATION FOR TENDERER** | | | | | |
| 22 | Eligibility of tenderer | i) | **General Experience:** The minimum general experience of the tenderer in the supply of goods as supplier/tenderer shall be 05 years. | | |
| | | ii) | **Specific experience:** The minimum specific experience as tenderer in supply of goods (Computer and Related Accessories) of at least one (1) contract successfully completed within the last 05 years, with a value of at least Tk. 7,50,000.00 (BDT. Seven Lakh Fifty Thousand only). | | |
| | | iii) | The minimum amount of liquid assets i.e., working capital or credit line(s) of the tenderer shall be Tk. 10,00,000.00 (BDT. Ten Lakh only). | | |
| 23 | Brief description of goods | Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of: i) 05 No's Desktop Computer, ii) 5 No's Printer, iii) 1 No. Scanner, iv) 1 No. RADF, v) 1 No. extra drawer for photocopier, vi) 1 No. Laptop and vii) 1 No. Projector. | | | |
| 24 | Brief description of related services | Not applicable. | | | |

| 25 | Identification of package | Location | Price of tender document (Tk.) | Tender security amount (Tk.) | Completion time |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Desktop Computer, Printer, Scanner, Laptop and Projector for the Widening of Road and Construction of Elevated Road from Panchabati to Mukterpur Bridge Project. | Dhaka/ Narayanganj | 1,000.00 (One thousand only) | 30,000.00 (Tk. Thirty thousand only) | Within 30 days |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS** | | | |
| 26 | Name of official inviting tender | Shafiqul Islam. | |
| 27 | Designation of official inviting tender | Project Director, Widening of Road and Construction of Elevated Road from Panchabati to Mukterpur Bridge Project. | |
| 28 | Address of official inviting tender | Bangladesh Bridge Authority, Setu Bhaban, New Airport Road, Banani, Dhaka-1212. | |
| 29 | Contact details of official inviting tender | Tel. No.: +880255040374 | Mobile: +88-01711-164101 |
| 30 | The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders. | | |

**Shafiqul Islam**
Project Director
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Mobile: +88-01711-164101
E-mail: pdmukterpur@gmail.com

GD-2094