



# MAYUR RIVER at death's door



Once the primary source of fresh water in the region, the Mayur river is presently plagued with encroachment, indiscriminate pollution and water-hyacinths. Years of the authority's inaction has slowly transformed the life source into a cesspool of diseases and stench.

PHOTO:  
HABIBUR RAHMAN



DIPANKAR ROY

The Mayur, one of the main freshwater rivers of Khulna, is at death throes due to continuous encroachment and unchecked pollution.

Rapid growth of water-hyacinth has turned the 22-km river flowing beside the southwestern side of the city into a bane for local people, as they're unable to use the water for any purpose for years, said locals.

Most of the city corporation's waste is released into the river through approximately 26 drains. As a result, around one lakh people adjacent to KCC and surrounding villages are being deprived of the water resource.

The Mayur flows through Alutola, Nirala, Gallamari, Boyra, Dayana, Arongghata, Bildakatia. Its southern mouth is connected to the Rupsha river at Alutala gate of Batiaghata upazila

and the other to the Bildakatia of Dumuria upazila.

Visiting different points of the Mayur recently, including Boyra Cremation area, Sonadaga bypass bridge, Gallamari, Rayer Mahal and Dayana, it was seen that 20 small and big drains in different parts of the city are directly connected to the river. Apart from this, waste from slaughterhouses in the Gallamari area of the city, markets and various farms along the river fall directly into the river.

In 1986, a sluice gate was built in Alutala area of Batiaghata, to save the agricultural lands from saline water and tidal surge. Presently, the sluice gate cannot even drain out water.

Palash Das, a resident of Boyra Das para, said river, once a storehouse of freshwater fish and a helping hand for agriculture, has now become a water-hyacinth riddled and severely polluted waterbody.

Many villagers of Batiaghata and Dumuria, along with city dwellers used to earn a living by fishing, while farmers were blessed with good yields, he said.

Salma Begum, a local, said they cannot use the water for household works or bathing as it has become unfit for use, adding that they often suffer from skin diseases if they use the water.

According to the KCC, a technical committee was formed in February 2019 to compile a list of illegal grabbers. They listed of 362 establishments, constructed by 470 individuals and organisations occupying the river and 26 adjoining canals.

Nuruzzaman Talukder, member secretary of the river eviction committee and KCC's state officer, said every week, they visit the river area.

Anyone who tried to occupy the river land was evicted. In the last one and a half years, no one has occupied the river

anew, he claimed.

Asked, Abdul Aziz, chief conservancy officer of KCC, said several waterbodies, including the Mayur, would be re-excavated soon.

In September 2016, the Khulna office of Department of Environment sent a letter to the DG of the department, pointing out that unplanned waste management is responsible for the declining oxygen levels in the river and recommended improving Mayur river's water quality.

They are yet to get a reply in this regard, said Saifur Rahman, director of DoE, Khulna.

Abdullah Harun Chowdhury, professor of environmental sciences of KU, said if the dissolved oxygen (DO) level in the water drops below 6 mg per litre, small fish do not survive. In the Mayur River, the DO stays at zero for most of the year.

## 75 BNP activists sued for assault on cops in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police yesterday filed a case accusing 75 BNP leaders and activists on the charge of attacking the law enforcers from a human chain in Chattogram city's Jamal Khan area the day before.

Police produced 49 BNP men -- who were shown arrested in the case -- before a Chattogram court yesterday.

The party's city unit convener Dr Shahadat Hossain, member secretary Abul Hasam Bakkar, member Yasin Chowdhury, Abdul Mannan, south district BNP's convener Abu Sufian and city unit Jubo Dal president Mosharraf Hossain Dipti are among the accused, said police.

BNP standing committee member Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury was present during the human chain but he was not named in the FIR, said police officials.

Mohammed Nezam, officer-in-charge (OC) of Kotwali Police Station, said, in the case, they accused 75 BNP people of assaulting the on-duty police officials, damaging properties and preventing the law enforcers from discharging their duties.

"The 49 BNP men -- who were shown arrested in the case -- were detained after the assault," said the OC.

At least eight persons -- including three policemen -- were injured in a clash after police forced the BNP men to leave the street during its human chain programme on January 5 marking what it calls "Democracy Killing Day".

## ABRAR MURDER CASE

### Death reference reaches HC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Case documents for Buet student Abrar Fahad's murder reached the High Court yesterday, as death reference in order to examine the lower court verdict sentencing 20 students to death and five others to life imprisonment.

Officials of the Dhaka court concerned brought the documents of the case, including the judgment, to the HC, Supreme Court spokesperson Saifur Rahman told The Daily Star.

He said the HC authorities will now prepare the document paper book for hearing on the death reference.

If a lower court sentences any individual to death in a case, the judgment is examined by the HC through a process of hearing arguments to confirm and justify the death sentence.

The case documents and judgment reach the HC as a death reference from the lower court after the latter delivers the verdict as per relevant provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC).

A Dhaka court on December 8 last year sentenced 20 Buet students to death for their direct involvement in the murder of Abrar Fahad, a sophomore student, inside a dorm room, an incident that took the nation by storm two years ago.

The court also sentenced five other Buet students to life imprisonment for their role in the murder.

## 4 of family killed in road crash

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cumilla

Four members of a family died and another suffered injuries as a BRTC bus collided with a CNG-run auto-rickshaw in Laksham of Cumilla yesterday morning.

The deceased are Bahar Miah (55), his wife Parul Begum (45), daughter Jannatul Mawa (1) and mother-in-law Golam Nahar (60). They were from Lalmai's Parti village.

Two of them died on the spot when a Noakhali-bound BRTC bus from Cumilla hit the auto-rickshaw in Kaliachou area around 7:00am, said Maksud Ahmed, inspector of Laksham Highway Police Outpost.

The three injured were admitted to Cumilla Medical College Hospital, where two more family members were declared dead.

All the vehicles were plying on a single lane due to construction work of Cumilla-Noakhali regional highway when the accident occurred.

Meanwhile, in Joypurhat, a madrasa teacher was killed as a truck ran her over on Wednesday evening, said police.

"The deceased -- Hajera Khanam (37), taught at Gatansharah Dwimukhi Dakhil Madrasa in Joypurhat town," said Joypurhat Police Station OC Alamgir Jahan.



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Memo No.- 18.15.0000.023.14.073.21-22

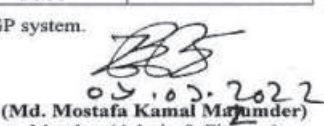
Dated: 06 January, 2022

**e-Tender Corrigendum Notice**

e-Tender has been pulished through National e-GP System Portal for the Prorurement of following works:

Tender ID	Description	Old Date & Time	New Date & Time
617688	Document last selling date & time	09/01/2022, 14:30	16/01/2022, 14:30
	Closing date & time	09/01/2022, 15:00	16/01/2022, 15:00
	Openning date & time	09/01/2022, 15:00	16/01/2022, 15:00
	Last date & time for tender/Proposal Security Submission	09/01/2022, 14:00	16/01/2022, 14:00

All other terms and condition including Addendum are in e-GP system.

  
(Md. Mostafa Kamal Mazumder)  
Member (Admin & Finance)  
&  
Project Director (Joint Secretary)  
'Construction of Cargo Vehicle Terminal at Benapole Land Port' Project.  
Phone: 02-55013955


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## DAWN DRAPED in DEW DROPS



As winter comfortably settles in across the country, and the sun's prowess is shadowed by dense fog, mustard flowers have stepped in to add a bit of colour to the season's greyscale. Dew drops lather their surface in the early mornings, enhancing their beauty, leaving spectators at awe of their presence. This photo was taken from Dhamrai.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN



**Planning and Development Division**  
Khulna University, Khulna

Tender No. KU/PD-236/2021-06

Date: 05.01.2022

**e-Tender Notice No. 04/2021-2022**

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

Tender ID No.	Package No.	Name of the work	Online tender closing and opening date
603174	KU/PD-255/2021	Procurement and Installation of Scientific Equipment for Drawing and Painting Discipline of Khulna University (Lot - 01)	27.01.2022 11:15
643680	KU/PD-279/2021	Procurement and Installation of Scientific Equipment for Drawing and Painting Discipline of Khulna University (Lot - 02)	27.01.2022 11:30
623881	KU/PD-261/2021	Procurement and Installation of Scientific Equipment for Environmental Science Discipline of Khulna University	27.01.2022 11:45
616519	KU/PD-236/2021	Procurement and Installation of Scientific Equipment for Central Laboratory of Khulna University (Lot - 01)	27.01.2022 12:00
639175	KU/PD-256/2021	Procurement and Installation of Scientific Equipment for Sculpture Discipline of Khulna University (Lot - 01)	27.01.2022 12:15
643690	KU/PD-254/2021	Procurement and Installation of Scientific Equipment for Mass Communication and Journalism Discipline of Khulna University	27.01.2022 12:30
645069	KU/PD-268/2021	Procurement and Installation of Scientific Equipment for Development Studies Discipline of Khulna University	27.01.2022 12:45

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank branches up to banking hours on e-GP System. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

Signed  
Md. Mahubus Sobhan  
Director (P&D)

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