



PHOTO: **PALASH KHAN**

## Impact Foundation's floating hospital supporting rural healthcare for two decades

While healthcare is quite accessible for city residents, people living in rural areas are far less fortunate. This is where "Jibon Tari", a floating hospital aptly named according to the service it provides, creates an impact. The hospital has been sailing through the major rivers of the country, making healthcare accessible for rural citizens.

Impact Foundation Bangladesh (IFB) launched Jibon Tari, the first floating hospital in the country, on April 10, 1999. Since then, for more than two decades, the three-deck floating hospital has been providing specialised health check-ups and services for eyes, ENT, orthopaedics and issues related to physical deformity to the disadvantaged population living in remote riverine areas.

The 40-metre-long and 10-metre-wide floating hospital is equipped with modern medical and surgical equipment. The facility also includes accommodation for 32 full-time residential staff members, including doctors, nurses, paramedics, medical technologists and support staff. It is equipped with two marine generators for uninterrupted power and a water-purifying plant for safe water.

Asked about how the floating hospital operates, Md Alauddin, administrator of



**Impact Foundation's floating hospital "Jibon Tari" has been providing healthcare services to the disadvantaged population living in remote riverine areas since 1999.**

Jibon Tari, said, "Before docking in any area, we survey the region. We inspect if the docking area has enough water, access to electricity, and whether a good number of patients exist who require our services."

"We take help from the district administrations, union parishads, and civil surgeons of local health facilities to conduct this survey. After we are docked, residents of the area are informed of our hospital through billboards and

announcements," said Alauddin.

"Some residents who have already availed our services contact us beforehand and let us know of their ailments. They take information on where we are docked at present and come in for a visitation accordingly or ask us when we will dock in their area," he added.

Most of the patients at Jibon Tari go

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# 'Will unveil movement outline soon'

Says BNP leader Gayeshwar

UNB, Dhaka

BNP senior leader Gayeshwar Chandra Roy yesterday said the party will soon unveil the outline of a united movement for the "restoration" of democracy.

"I think that efforts are ongoing. We'll present it before the nation at any time," he said during a discussion titled "Acceptable Election the Only Solution to the Crisis", organised by a faction of Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) at Jatiya Press Club.

The BNP leader also said the party's acting chair Tarique Rahman will come up with a call for waging a united movement soon in Khaleda Zia's absence. "He [Tarique] will present the outline of the future movement. We've almost completed preparations in this regard."

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# The alarming decline of birds at Hakaluki

MINTU DESHWARA

The number of migratory birds at Hakaluki Haor has been gradually decreasing over the last five years for a variety of reasons.

According to experts, the number has gone down due to the scarcity of sanctuaries near the haor area, water bodies being filled, poaching, shortage of food and threats to the biodiversity in the haor.

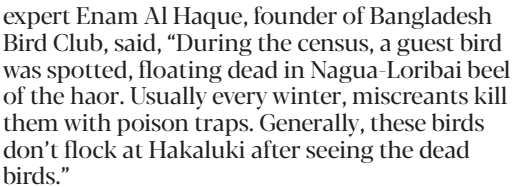
According to bird census data of the last five years, only 24,551 birds of 45 species were found in 2021, whereas 58,281 of 50 species were observed in 2017. This means over these years, the number of birds has decreased by half.

From 2010 to 2015, tracker rings were put on the haor's migratory birds to monitor their movement. Although other birds were found, none of the tracked birds could be found this year.

In 1999, the government declared Hakaluki haor as an ecologically critical area (ECA). Until 2018, some projects were underway to conserve Hakaluki's biodiversity and its birds. No other project has been taken after that.

Although previously there were more than six bird sanctuaries, after 2019 there are only two -- one in Kangli-Gobarkuri and the other near Kayarkona beel.

Regarding the declining number of birds, bird



Tourist Husna Begum Chowdhury, who came to visit Hakaluki from Dhaka's Lalbagh, said, "I was disappointed after going to Hakaluki this year. When I came here years ago, there were a lot of birds. But this time, I could hardly find any."

Meanwhile, a proposal has been sent from the environment ministry to Ramsar Secretariat in Switzerland -- to declare Hakaluki Haor, like Tanguar Haor, a Ramsar site included in the international agreement, said Environment Minister Md Shahab Uddin.

“We are yet to hear from Switzerland on the announcement. The matter is currently under process. Once the site is recognised, various development works will be undertaken to protect the biodiversity of Hakaluki Haor,” Shahab Uddin told this correspondent.

The minister also mentioned that 27 ponds, three beels and a canal would be dug in six unions of Barlekha-Juri and Kulaura upazila in Moulvibazar, under the ministry's initiative.

# Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Local Government Engineering Department

Office of the Executive Engineer

District: Thakurgaon

[www.lged.gov.bd](http://www.lged.gov.bd)

শেখ হাসিনার মূলনীতি  
গ্রাম শহরের উন্নতি

Date: 12-05-2022

Memo No-46.02.9400.000.14-001-22-886

## e-Tender Notice-36/2021-22(OTM)

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System of Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for FY 2021-2022 the procurement of under mentioned work FY 2021-2022.

Sl No	Tender ID	Name of work & Package No.	Last selling date & time	Closing & opening date & time	Completion time
1	696490	1) Minor Maintenance of 7.00m long RCC Box Culvert on Ranishankail HQ-Kathharhat GC Road at Ch. 2521m. (Road ID-194862001) under Ranisankail Upazila, Dist: Thakurgaon 2) Minor Maintenance of 6.90m long RCC Box Culvert on Ranishankail H/Q at Santipur-kathaldangi hat GC Road at Ch. 4992m. (Old ch. 4863m) (Road ID-194862005) under Ranisankail Upazila, Dist: Thakurgaon 3) Minor Maintenance of 7.50m RCC Box Culvert on Nekmord GC (College more) R&H-Moharaja GC Road at Ch. 2810m. (Old ch.2800m) (Road ID-194862008) under Ranisankail Upazila, Dist: Thakurgaon 4) Minor Maintenance of 9.00m RCC Box Culvert on Nekmord GC (College more) R&H-Shibganj hat road at Ch. 465m (Road ID-194862010) under Ranisankail Upazila, Dist: Thakurgaon 5) Minor Maintenance of 9.00m RCC Box Culvert on Nekmord GC (College more) R&H- Shibganj hat road at Ch.428m (Road ID-194862010) under Ranisankail Upazila, Dist: Thakurgaon 6) Minor Maintenance of 100.00m long RCC Girder Bridge on Chilarang UP office-Farabari GC via Bokesh hat, Akhanagar Rail Station Bazar Road at Ch. 7800m (Old Ch. 6785m) (Road ID-194943028) under Sadar Upazila, Dist: Thakurgaon. Package: SupRB/Thakur/Main/21-22/W-355	05.06.2022 05.00pm	06.06.2022 10.30am	180 days

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 Banks branches up to 05.06.2022, 5.00pm for further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd))

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GD-965