

BANGLAR SAMRIDDIH

Mariner died due to untimely evacuation

Allege BMMOA

STAFF CORRESPONDENT,
Ctg

A mariner died in the vessel "Banglar Samriddhi", which was stranded in a war-torn Ukrainian port, due to Bangladesh Shipping Corporation (BSC) delaying to take the decision to evacuate, alleged leaders of Bangladesh Merchant Marine Officers' Association (BMMOA).

They were addressing a press conference in Chattogram city yesterday for providing financial assistance to the family of Hadisur Rahman, third engineer of Banglar Samriddhi, who was killed during a missile attack on the vessel on March 2.

The members of BMMOA and International Transport Workers Federation (ITF) have created a fund of Tk 10,27,177 for the family. A cheque was handed over to Hadisur's younger brother Golam Maola Prince.

BMMOA President Captain Md Anam Chowdhury blamed BSC for delaying the decision for quick evacuation of the vessel when it got stranded at Olvia port, Ukraine.

Echoing the same, BMMOA General Secretary Md Shakawat Hossain also criticised BSC for delaying to compensate the victim's family.

Immediately after arrival of the news on February 27 that Banglar

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1



Khulna's Sheikh Abu Naser bypass road, from Bastuhara intersection to City bypass, was left unfit to use for 12 long years. Locals tried multiple times to get the authorities to fix the road but to no avail. After many years of suffering, they have started renovating the road on their own.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

'United we fix'

Locals renovating Abu Naser bypass neglected by authorities for 12yrs

DIPANKAR ROY, Khulna

A major road of the city, unfit due to lack of maintenance for 12 years. Multiple complaints were made to the authorities but to no avail.

Under such circumstances, locals have done what many might deem impossible in the first impression. Proving all of it wrong, they have started renovating the road on their own. Their determination has become the representation of what collective effort can do.

Khulna's Sheikh Abu Naser bypass connectivity road from Bastuhara intersection to City bypass was left unfit for use for 12 long years. The bricks were coming off the 2.37km road, creating numerous potholes on the way and giving

At least 3,000-3,500 people walk this road every day. There's not even a footpath. At least 50 businesses stand on both sides of the road.

MD HEMAYET HOSSAIN
Retired naval officer, president of
Madinabagh Janakalyan Samiti

in to dust in dry weather and mud during the monsoon.

According to KDA sources, a Tk 14 crore project started in 2003-2004 fiscal year and completed in 2008-2009 on the road. Since then, the road has seen no maintenance whatsoever.

Locals and affected traders beside the road have started the renovation work on their own from Sunday (May 15).

Md Hemayet Hossain, retired naval officer and president of Madinabagh Janakalyan Samiti, told this correspondent that around five thousand people reside in the surrounding areas in miserable condition for years.

"At least 3,000-3,500 people walk this road every day. There's not even a footpath. At least 50 businesses stand on both sides of the road."

"It's a timely need to fix the road, hence we voluntarily work here. Some house owners have donated bricks and sand," he added.

"We have been seeking a solution

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

Left unused even years after construction

Two water-treatment plants could fulfil demand of Barishal city, but are not in operation

SUSHANTA GHOSH

It has been three years since two constructed surface-water treatment plants were handed over to the relevant authority in Barishal, but the plants are still not operational.

Currently, only half the peak demand for water in Barishal city is being met, according to sources. If the plants were operational, residents would not have to worry about getting water.

According to Department of Public Health Engineering, Barishal, two development project proposals (DPP) for "Surface Water Treatment Plant Beltala and Rupaoli, Barishal" were prepared in 2009. But later, plans were modified, and the latest cost stood at around Tk 50 crore.



"At first, there was a long-standing problem regarding providing power supply to the plants. The power authority refused to provide the line due to arrears. Later, Barishal City Corporation [BCC] authorities delayed in receiving the two plants," said Mahnul Hossain, executive engineer at Department of Public Health Engineering, Barishal.

"First, we handed one plant over in 2018. We officially handed both over in October 2019... BCC has been overseeing the project since then," he said.

This, however, does not explain why the plants are not operational, even after being handed over. But BCC has pointed to faulty construction as the cause.

BCC Chief Executive Officer Sayed Faruque Hossain said the machinery of the two

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4



Thousands of band music lovers flocked to see "The Hybrid Experience" yesterday, featuring Artcell, Black, Cryptic Fate, Arbovirus, Nemesis, AvoidRafa, Mechanix, and Dreek. The concert was organised by Full Circle with Daraz BD as the title sponsor.

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

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