

## Flood situation worsens in Kurigram

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

The flood situation in Kurigram's Roumari upazila has even further deteriorated as water from Assam's hill slopes are flowing into the region. New areas have been flooded and the situation is only getting worse.

According to Roumari upazila administration sources, around 35,000 people have been displaced at 49 villages in the upazila's four unions due to the flood.

The water has submerged aman paddy seedbeds, jute and various vegetables on 592 hectares of land and 55km of roads.

Thirty-five educational institutions have been shut down.

The flood-displaced people have to travel by rafts and boats made with trees as roads are submerged. Flood waters have drowned most of

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Carrying his child on his shoulders, a resident of Kurigram's Roumari upazila wades through knee-deep flood water, seeking a place for refuge. As the flood situation worsens in 49 villages across four unions, many villagers have been forced to leave their homes -- either on foot or makeshift rafts as most roads have submerged. This photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

## CLIMATE CHANGE Learning to be resilient

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Many people, particularly rural women of 13 districts, have been learning how to be resilient against climate change through a programme titled "REECALL", led by Oxfam in Bangladesh.

Oxfam organised an information-sharing event to illustrate outcomes of the programme -- which was attended by civil society organisations, representatives of the private sector, and government officials -- at the capital's Cirdap auditorium yesterday.

Swapan Bhattacharjee, state minister of rural development and cooperative ministry, who attended the event as chief guest, said the purpose of the programme is aligned with the mission of the prime minister, who is working to empower women and create resilience among vulnerable communities.

Ashish Damle, country director of Oxfam in Bangladesh, said Oxfam started working in the country right after the Liberation War, supporting aid distribution, reconstruction and various other work.

The organisation has been implementing the "REECALL" project in 13 districts. The project is a continuation of Oxfam's response to the needs of climate-vulnerable communities in char, haor and coastal areas.

# The candidates keep getting richer

Says Shujan, analysing their wealth info

» 9 out of 144 candidates' net worth over Tk 1cr each	» Outgoing mayor Sakku's income rose by 87pc after 2017 polls
» 73.3pc businesspersons	» Arfanul the richest as per affidavit
» 8.3pc job holders	» 4 out of 5 mayoral candidates faced cases
» 2.8pc lawyers	» 34.7pc candidates are graduates
» 2.1pc involved in agriculture	

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Only two out of 157 Cumilla City Corporation election candidates -- for the posts of mayor, councillor and reserved women councillor -- had a net worth of over Tk 1 crore each in 2017. But that figure now stands at nine out of 144.

Shushashoner Jonno Nagorik (Shujan) mentioned this at its press conference at Jatiya Press Club yesterday, two days before the election date.

**The earnings of those who hold such posts -- like mayor, MP or minister -- multiply by many folds. It's like magic.**

BADIUL ALAM MAJUMDER  
Secretary of Shujan

A total of 102 candidates had a net worth of less than Tk 5 lakh in 2017. That number now stands at 67, found Shujan.

The majority of candidates are businesspersons, as usual.

The affidavit of Monirul Haque Sakku, the outgoing mayor of Cumilla, stated that he operated his business until he was elected for the first time in 2012. Despite this, his and his family's yearly income has risen by 87 percent since the 2017 polls.

"The earnings of those who hold such posts -- like mayor, MP or minister -- multiply by many folds. It's like magic," said Badiul Alam Majumder, secretary of Shujan.

Among the five mayoral candidates, all except Rashedul Islam of Islami Andolon Bangladesh have been accused in cases throughout their career.

An attempt to murder or murder case, under section 302 of Penal Code, was filed against Awami League candidate Arfanul Haque Rifat. He was later acquitted.

All three independent candidates -- Monirul Haque Sakku, Mohammad Nizam Uddin and Kamrul Hasan Babul -- are facing two, eight and two cases, respectively.

Arfanul has the most wealth, Shujan found from the affidavit, but the outgoing mayor is way richer than Arfanul.

"It seems that many candidates do not mention the exact figures of their wealth in their affidavit. We repeatedly demanded the Election Commission [EC] thoroughly look into the affidavits, but it did not do so," said Badiul Alam.

Dilip Kumar Sarkar, central coordinator of Shujan, presented findings about the election candidates' income, educational background, and cases filed against them. He said among the mayoral candidates, Rashed completed post-graduation from a madrasa, and Arfanul and Nizam are university graduates.

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## 22,704 posts vacant in railway

Minister tells JS

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The number of vacant posts is 22,704 in railway, Minister Nurul Islam Sujon told parliament yesterday.

The minister placed the statistic in response to a query from Awami League MP Mamunur Rashid Kiran. The minister said out of the total vacant posts, 201 posts are for first class officials, 1,601 for second class, 8,575 for third and 12,327 for fourth class officials.

The minister said out of these vacancies, demand for 14 first class and 554 second class posts has already been sent to Public Service Commission. Besides, 7,351 posts of third and fourth classes have been given clearance.

In a scripted answer, the minister said job circular of 441 posts of third class and 2,812 posts of fourth class have already been published. The recruitment test for ALM Grade-2 and Guard Grade-2 posts will be held on June 17. In response to a query, the minister said the amount of unused land of the railway is 10,843.15 hectares.

The unused lands of the railways and vacant lands in residential areas are somewhat illegally occupied, which are being freed by turn, he added.

The minister also said eviction activities are being conducted every month.

## Women still carry the load of unpaid work

Says BBS survey

REJAUL KARIM BYRON and JAMIL MAHMUD

Women spend eight times more than men on domestic work and care-giving, found a recent survey by Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) published yesterday.

According to the "Time Use Survey 2021", men spend around 1.6 hours a day in domestic work and caregiving, while women spend 11.7 hours -- nearly half of the day.

These works also do not meet the conventional criteria of productivity and thus remain unpaid and unrecognised, says the report.

Besides conducting such unpaid work, women also pass 1.2 hours conducting the conventionally productive work, while men spend 6.1 hours on those.

In light of this, the report mentioned that gender equality cannot be attained in the absence of equal rights and women themselves have to be the active agents for this change. The exclusion of women in the labour market is unjustified and

**According to the "Time Use Survey 2021", men spend around 1.6 hours a day in domestic work and caregiving, while women spend 11.7 hours -- nearly half of the day.**

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## JU on path to waste crores?

Authorities constructing new buildings 'on a whim'

SHEIKH TAJUL ISLAM TAJ

Jahangirnagar University's (JU) latest development decisions have the potential to waste crores, as claims of building new establishments whimsically, and hiding information are echoing throughout the university.

JU currently has two administrative buildings, one of which has been partially built. But instead of completing its construction, JU's new plan is to erect a brand new 10-storey administrative building, at a cost of Tk 138.

The reason, according to authorities, is to house all the university's offices in one building, as the existing two structures are not fit for that.

**If the authorities build the new administrative building, around Tk 100 crore would go down the drain. They can't just do this whimsically. JU can just complete construction of the existing administration building.**

PROF ANU MUHAMMAD  
Eminent economist

However, Abdus Salam Md Sharif, the university's chief engineer, said this can be accomplished by just finishing construction of the existing building, which will require around Tk 40 crore.

According to documents, construction of the existing building started in 2009, and works of a part of the structure was finished in 2016. This cost Tk 11.19 crore.

The Daily Star has obtained a copy of the building's design, which indicates that the structure can be used to conduct all administrative activities if construction is completed.

The chief engineer has confirmed this. Meanwhile, the development project proposal

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Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

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Memo No. 35.01.5600.444.07.010.22-1654

Dated: 12/06/2022

e-Tender Notice

These are an online tenders, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. e-Tender is invited in e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) by Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Manikganj for the procurement of:

Tender Notice & ID No.	Name of work	Last selling and closing date & time
109/e-GP/EE/Mkg.Rd/2021-2022 ID: 709701	Supply of Envelops, Different kinds of Paper, Tapes etc for Printing and Binding of Official Letters, Estimates of various Works, Bridge Design/Drawing Papers, Topographical Survey Reports of Nayarhat	22-June-2022 16:00 & 23-June-2022 12:00
110/e-GP/EE/Mkg.Rd/2021-2022 ID: 709706	Printing and binding of various Tender Document and Contract agreement booklet with supplying & printing envelopes and bridge design/drawing paper under Manikganj Road Division in the financial year 2021-21	22-June-2022 16:00 & 23-June-2022 12:05
111/e-GP/EE/Mkg.Rd/2021-2022 ID: 709920	Supplying & Printing Banner by Carrying, Loading, Unloading & Placing etc. complete as per direction of the E/ch.	22-June-2022 16:00 & 23-June-2022 12:10
112/e-GP/EE/Mkg.Rd/2021-2022 ID: 709921	Emergency Provision of Supplying Banner, Placard etc for the celebration of Padma Bridge Inauguration Ceremony of Nayarhat Road Sub-Division under Manikganj Road Division during the year 2021-2022.	22-June-2022 16:00 & 23-June-2022 12:15

Md. Gaus-Ul-Hassan Maruf

ID No. 602215

Executive Engineer (C.C), RHD

Road Division, Manikganj

GD-1226

## ADAMJI BIHARI CAMP 5 hurt as police, locals clash



PHOTO: COLLECTED

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nganj

At least five people were injured during a clash between police and members of Bihari community in Sadar upazila of Narayanganj yesterday.

The clash occurred following the arrest of 31 people from Adamji Bihari Camp during an anti-drug raid.

The clash ensued when camp residents gathered in front of the Siddhirganj Police Station on Shimrail-Adamji-Chashara Road around 7:00am, demanding release of fellow camp dwellers.

According to witnesses, police fired teargas shells and shots to bring the agitated protesters under control, prompting them to hurl brick bats on law enforcers.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

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Memo No. 25.36.6100.110.00.000.21-2721

Date: 12-06-2022

e-Tender Notice (OTM)

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

Tender ID	Tender closing (date & time)
709357, 709356, 709355, 709354, 709353.	21-June-2022 12:00
710314, 710313, 709349, 709285, 709132, 709118, 709074.	23-June-2022 20:00

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. 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)).

Rashed Ahsan

Executive Engineer

Mymensingh PW Division

Mymensingh

GD-1219