

Rain stopped, sufferings did not

Low-lying areas in port city waterlogged for 3 days

ARUN BIKASH DEY, Ctg

Even though the torrential rain took a break in the port city, the sufferings of residents did not. Many low-lying areas in the city are still under knee-deep water.

Water is yet to recede in many areas, including, Halishahar, Agrabad, Chandgaon, Bakalia Bara Miah Masjid lane and Rahattar Pool Ujir Ali Shah by lane till yesterday afternoon.

Residents in these areas have been confined in their homes for three consecutive days.

Mahmuda Khatun, a resident at Ujir Ali Shah by lane in Rahattar pool area, said, "All the valuables in the house have been damaged in water and all my family members have been taking refuge in our neighbour's house."

"The ground floor water tank has been submerged, so we don't have any drinking water in the house," said Abdul Mabud, another resident of the same area.

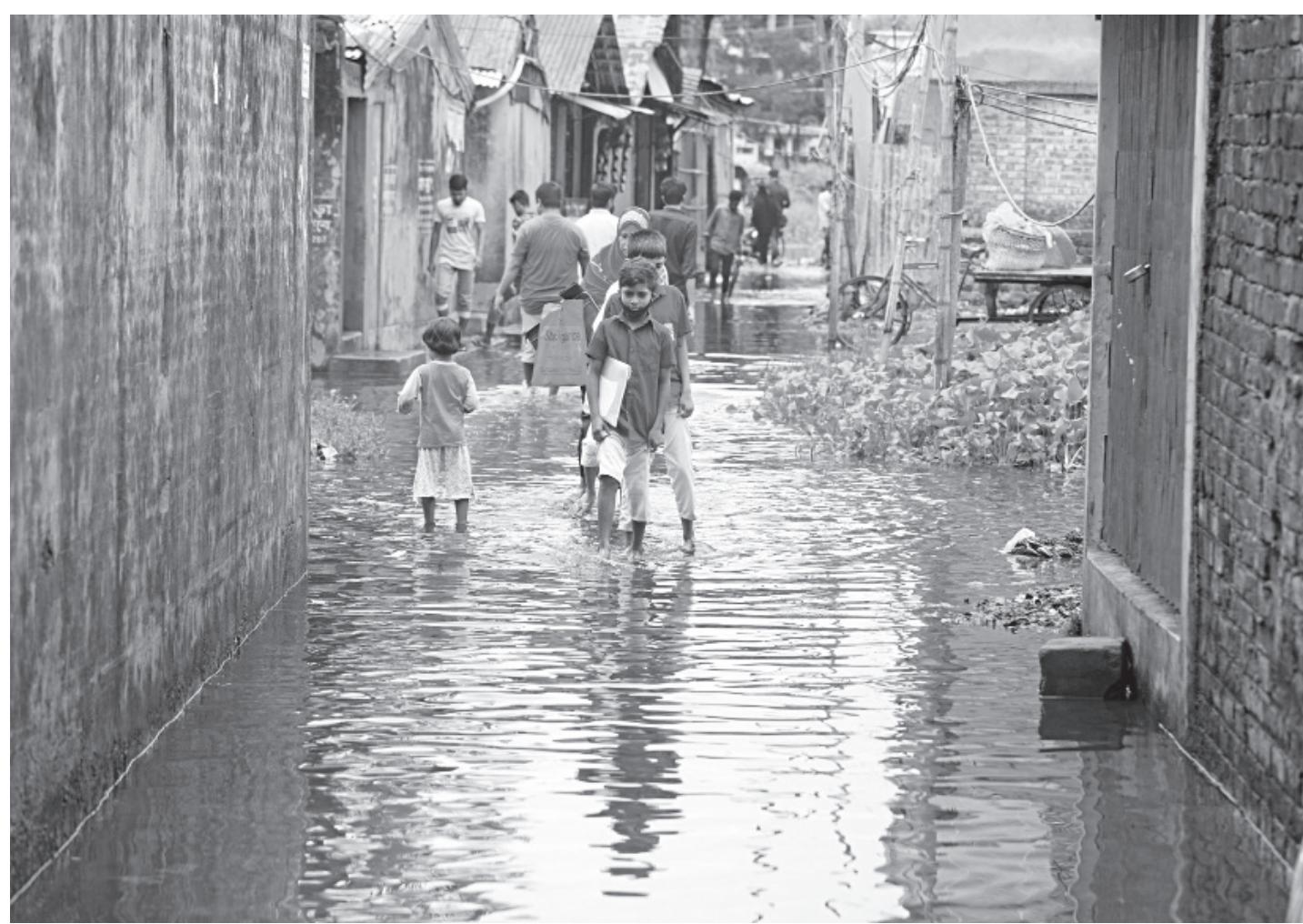
"We're confined by water for three days... there's water everywhere but not a drop for us to drink," said Sheuly Dey, another resident in the area.

"I don't understand why the water hasn't receded yet," said Kutub Uddin (60), a resident at Bakalia Bara Miah Masjid area, adding, "We've faced waterlogging before, but never a situation as grave as this."

"Who do we ask these questions? No authorities concerned have visited the area to see our sufferings in three days," he said.

Contacted, CCC Mayor Rezaul Karim Chowdhury said, "The Chattogram Development Authority (CDA) has

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Children from surrounding schools in Bakulia area of port city set for home by walking through the submerged road with great difficulty, as no vehicles could be seen in sight. Even though the rain has stopped, residents of low-lying areas are faced with much trouble since most of these areas have been waterlogged for the last three days.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

AL leader hacked to death in Rajbari

Another shot in Satkhira

STAR REPORT

A local Awami League leader was hacked to death in Pabna-Rajbari border area yesterday.

The deceased - Md Akkas Ali (70) from Dharai village in Bera upazila, Pabna -- was the secretary of ward-6 AL unit under Dhalarchar union.

Akkas was supervising a road construction project at Rakhangasi village, a border point of Pabna's Bera and Rajbari's Golando, said Md Rawshan Alom, officer-in-charge of Aminpur Police Station in Pabna.

When he went to the project site in the morning, a group of criminals attacked him, said the OC.

"On information, we rushed in and cordoned off the spot," he said.

"As the spot falls in Rajbari, we informed the district police. They will take the body. A case will be filed with Rajbari Police Station," said the police officer.

"The reason behind the murder is not clear. Criminals might have killed him over previous enmity," the OC added.

Meanwhile, miscreants shot Fazlur Rahman (59), vice president of Satkhira Sadar upazila unit of AL, yesterday noon.

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A well-oiled syndicate

Oil being smuggled from ships through Karnaphuli by influential locals



This is the vessel that has reportedly been used to smuggle huge amounts of unrefined edible oil from large ships stationed at the outer anchorage of Chattogram port. Authorities have caught this vessel with thousands of litres of oil not once, but twice.

PHOTO: STAR

FM MIZANUR RAHMAN, Ctg

A strong, well-organised syndicate has been reportedly smuggling unrefined edible oil from mother vessels stationed at the outer anchorage of Chattogram port.

The syndicate has not only smuggled edible oil but also peddled different kinds of fuel using unique techniques, and managing local police and other agencies.

Although such illegal activities have been continuing for a long time, the smuggling issue came to light after river police of Chattogram zone seized a lighter vessel carrying 11,000 litres of unrefined edible oil on February 24.

The oil was being smuggled through Karnaphuli River. Police also arrested 12 in this connection.

According to investigators, Harunur

Rashid (42) of the port city's EPZ area is the mastermind behind the syndicate. With the help of his lighter vessel, syndicate members have smuggled oil to different points of Karnaphuli to sell in the open market.

This correspondent has investigated how the syndicate smuggles oil from the sea to land and found Harun's involvement. It also came to light how Harun has made himself a leader of the ruling party's Jubo League in port city's ward-39, EPZ area.

Despite Harun being accused in the smuggling case filed with Patenga Police Station on February 24, he was not arrested. The accused is roaming freely in his area and even attends political programmes.

According to the case statement of

river police, during a regular patrol in the Karnaphuli on the night of February 24, a team spotted the vessel "Tansha Enterprise" at Ghat-13 in Uttar Laldia Char area and seized it when smugglers were trying to load unrefined vegetable oil into two oil tankers.

During the drive, 12 persons were held as they failed to show any valid documents. After searching the vessel, police found 11,000 litres of oil inside the ship's basement.

According to police, the value of the seized oil is about Tk 8.80 lakh. The oil was scheduled to be smuggled from Patenga to another spot using the tankers.

Wishing anonymity, an official of river police told The Daily Star, "During primary interrogation of the arrestees, we came

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Hilsa in a pond!

Locals catch 8 hilsas from Barguna pond

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali



Eight medium-sized hilsa fish were found in a pond at Chhota Mokamia village in Barguna's Betagi upazila. The incident has caused a stir in the area as hilsa are usually found in the rivers.

The pond where the hilsa were caught is owned by former UP member Rizia Begum.

Md Shahin, resident of the adjacent house, said each hilsa weighs around 400-500 grammes.

Locals, even amidst the utter astonishment, said if it is possible to cultivate hilsa in the pond, commercial cultivation can be started.

Betagi Upazila Fisheries Officer Abdul Gaffar said their research is currently ongoing over the matter.

"Research is being conducted on commercial hilsa cultivation in ponds. If the research is successful, hilsa can be cultivated in closed water bodies," said Md Lokman Hossain, a researcher in the Department of Fisheries at Patuakhali Science and Technology University.

EMBEZZLING TK 32.67CR

ACC files case against Mamun

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

ACC yesterday filed a case against One Spinning Mills' managing director Giasuddin Al Mamun, a friend of BNP senior vice-chairman Tarique Rahman, and 20 others for misappropriating about Tk 32.67 crore of state-run Sonali Bank in 2004 and 2005.

According to the case statement, One Spinning Mills opened an LC worth Tk 40.23 crore with Sonali Bank for importing capital machinery from Germany on November 8, 2004.

Sonali Bank paid Tk 32.67 crore to the foreign bank. Meanwhile, the company released the goods from the port without repaying its loan to Sonali Bank.

On April 24, 2019, a Dhaka court sentenced Mamun to seven years' rigorous imprisonment in connection with a case filed by ACC over siphoning 4,18,852 British pounds to the UK.

Mamun -- who stands accused in 13 other cases -- has already been convicted and sentenced to 30 years in jail in four cases, three of which were for corruption.

'Stand with flood victims'

Calls LFB on second founding anniversary

CITY DESK

Leaders Forum BD (LFB) Trust, a Dhaka-based registered platform of corporate and business leaders and managers, has made a clarion call for corporate fraternities to wake up to stand for endangered humanity in times of any national emergency.

On the forum's second founding anniversary, corporate leaders from 23 sectors said Sunamganj and Sylhet are the worst affected by ongoing floods in recent history.

They urged everyone to chip in for the water-locked people in the flooded areas in the country's north and north-eastern regions.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer

PWD Division, Joypurhat

e-Tender Notice

Memo No. 609

This is to notify that the following tender have published through e-GP Portal.

Date-21-06-2022

SI No.

Tender ID

Name of work

Tender/proposal document last selling date & time

Tender/proposal closing/opening date & time

1. 712166

Upgradation & Renovation of Joypurhat District Hospital from 100 to 250 bed at Joypurhat District (Sub-head: Supply & Installation Sub-station Equipment, X-former, HT switch gear, PFL, HT cable, LT cable, Drop out fuse, Generator & Solar panel).

13-Jul-2022 17:00

14-Jul-2022 11:00

2. 713287

Upgradation & Renovation of Joypurhat District Hospital from 100 to 250 bed at Joypurhat (Sub-head: Fire Protection System and Lightning Arrestor in work).

13-Jul-2022 17:00

14-Jul-2022 11:00

i) 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.

ii) e-Tender registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.aprocure.gov.bd>) is required to submit the tender.iii) Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Dr. Farjana Akhter
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GD-1284

Sonali Bank Limited

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e-GP Tender Notice (OTM)

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) by Additional Chief Engineer, Establishment & Engineering Division, Sonali Bank Limited, Head Office, Dhaka for the procurement of following works:

Sl. No.	Tender ID No.	Name of works	Tender publication date & time	Last selling/ downloading date and time	Tender closing/ opening date & time
1.	710304	Repair Works of Sonali Bank Limited, Barishal Corporate Branch Building, Police Barrack, Boundary Wall & Ancillary works (Civil & Electrical) at Barishal.	23 June, 2022 03:00pm	17 July, 2022 12:00pm	17 July, 2022 03:30pm

This is an online tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in 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.

GD-1283

Additional Chief Engineer