



The collapse of the 150-foot embankment at Durgabati point in Kholpetua River left hundreds of people marooned, inundated croplands and washed away shrimp enclosures. Four villages of Satkhira's Shyamnagar upazila have been submerged due to the embankment's collapse.

PHOTO: STAR

## Tidal water submerges 30 Bagerhat villages

Embankment collapse floods 4 Satkhira villages

STAR REPORT

At least 30 villages in Morrelganj and Rampal upazilas of Bagerhat have been inundated by abnormal amounts of tidal water. Residents of the flooded villages have also been suffering from waterlogging, with several fish enclosures also getting submerged.

The water level of Panguchi river in Morrelganj saw an increase by three to four feet yesterday morning. Locals have demanded construction of a ring dam in the flooded area to solve the problem.

Water Development Board (WDB) says it will identify the affected areas and make proposals for constructing embankments.

Kapurpatti Road, Kancha Bazar, Ferry Ghat, Kalachand Mazar area and Sankibhanga of Morrelganj municipality have been flooded.

At least 20 villages of 16 unions of the upazila, including Ghashiakhali, Palerkhand, Kakratali, Shanirjor, Sonatala, Chandantala, Juidhara, Hoglabunia and Barikhali, have been flooded.

**“ Due to the lack of embankments in these areas, tidal water is easily entering the locality. Project proposals will be made to identify the affected areas and prevent tidal water from submerging them. If the project is approved, work will be started as soon as possible.**

**Md Masum Billah**  
Executive engineer of Bagerhat WDB

Meanwhile, water level of Mongla-Ghoshiakhali Bangabandhu Naval Channel, Daudkhali, Bogura, and Tetulia rivers has also increased. Many areas of Pedikhali union, including Gilatala Bazar, Banshtali, Bhojpatia, Hurka, and Rajnagar of Rampal upazila have been submerged. Mongla upazila has also been reported

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### BISWAJIT MURDER CASE Fugitive convict held in Bogura

UNB, Bogura

Police yesterday arrested a fugitive convict who had been on the run since his conviction in the 2012 Biswajit Das murder case.

Alauddin (35), who was sentenced to life imprisonment in the case in 2013, was nabbed from his in-law's home in Mokamtola of Bogura's Shiganj upazila.

Acting on a tip-off, a team conducted a raid in the area and arrested

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### 11-yr-old girl drowns in Khulna river

UNB, Khulna

An 11-year-old girl has drowned while bathing in Ataro Beki river in Khulna, police said yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Bushra, daughter of Shahabur Rahman of Rupsha upazila's Chandpur village.

Locals said Bushra was bathing in the river with her family members around 1:00pm on Thursday.

At one stage, the girl slipped into deep water and went missing. Locals fished out her body around 8:00pm that day, police said.

The girl was immediately rushed to Rupsha upazila health complex, where doctors declared her dead.

## Fish, vegetable prices go up in Khulna after Eid

DIPANKAR ROY, Khulna

The wholesale and retail prices of vegetables and fish have shot up in Khulna right after Eid celebrations, due to inadequate supply — creating a burden for those belonging to the lower-income group.

While customers say there is adequate supply, traders claim there is a shortage of vegetables and fish in local and wholesale markets.

This correspondent visited at least seven Khulna kitchen markets — including Boyra Kitchen Bazar, Sandhya Kitchen Bazar, New Market Kitchen Bazar, Rupsa Bazar and Daulatpur Bazaar.

He found that brinjal, which was being sold at Tk 40 to 45 before Eid, is going for Tk 55 to 60 per kilo. Green chillies, which could be bought for Tk 85 to 90 per kilo, is being sold at Tk 140 to 150.

Medium-sized prawns at New Market and Gallamary kitchen market, which went for Tk 600 to 700 per kilo, now go for Tk 650 to 800, while large lobsters are being sold for Tk 800 to 1,200 per

kilo in Notun Bazar and Rupsha Ghat market.

Wholesalers say it costs Tk 5 to 30 more to buy vegetables from various farms in Jashore and Khulna. The cost of transport and labour has raised prices.

Mahafuzul Mukul, a resident of Boyra Doctorpara, said despite adequate supply, vegetable and fish prices have gone up in almost all Khulna kitchen markets after Eid.

“Ilish that weighs 700 grammes is being sold at Tk 1,200 to 1,250 per kilo, which could be purchased at Tk 1,000 to 1,050 before Eid. A 500-gramme ilish costs about Tk 850 now, which could be bought for around Tk 650,” said Mukul, adding that the rate does not decline when supply rises.

“Per kilo of rui is being sold at around Tk 400, and medium-sized tengra is going for around Tk 550 at different markets in Khulna,” said Tapon Kumar Das, a customer from Pabla in Daulatpur.

“Besides, katla, pangas, tilapia, bhetki, puti are being sold for Tk 200 to 600 per kilo,” he added.

Ruhul Kazi, a resident of

Mujunni area, came to buy vegetables at Boyra Bazar yesterday morning. He said the items are not affordable anymore.

“There's a kind of invisible hand working behind the rising prices,” he added.

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**Mahafuzul Mukul**  
Resident of Boyra Doctorpara

Among the vegetables being sold in the retail market, a kilo of pointed gourd (potol) now costs Tk 35, brinjal costs Tk 50 to 65, taro Tk 50 to 60, long beans Tk 60 to 65, tomato Tk 170, jali (a

kind of long pumpkin) Tk 40 per piece, pumpkin Tk 35 and spiny gourd (kakrol) Tk 50.

“These vegetables were going for at least Tk 5 to 15 less per kilo before Eid,” said Gouranga Proshad Baniik, a trader of New Market.

“Actually, it depends on supply and demand. Every year after Eid, the market becomes unstable. The demand for fish and vegetables rise since most people crave lighter food after days of consuming rich food like polao and korma,” he said.

Joyal Farazi, an ilish seller of Daulatpur, said, “There were fewer fish imports in the market before Eid, so the price is a bit high. Many fishers have not yet gone to the sea because of Eid.”

Sheikh Palash Hossain, president of Daulatpur Bazar Retail Commodity Traders Association, said prices of vegetables is usually higher in the post-Eid market.

“This is normal because after Eid, consumers are more inclined towards vegetables. Moreover, due to Eid, the supply of vegetables is generally low in wholesale markets,” he added.

### BOAT CAPSIZE IN GAZIPUR Elderly woman dies, granddaughter still missing

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

An elderly woman died and her granddaughter went missing after a boat capsized in Gazipur Sadar upazila's Belai beel yesterday morning.

The grandmother is Safia Begum (62) and the girl Saima Akter (5). Inspector Ashrafur Islam of Baria police outpost confirmed the matter.

Quoting villagers, he said the two were travelling to Soraiya area. At one point, the boat, carrying six passengers, toppled over.

Locals rescued four of them, while Safia was found dead. Abdul Hamid, deputy assistant director of Gazipur fire service, said they are trying to find the girl's body.

### 2,000kg of gel-injected shrimps seized in Khulna

UNB, Khulna

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) has detained 18 people with 2,000 kg of gel-injected shrimps from Koiya Bazar area of Khulna's Horintana upazila.

Acting on a tip-off that the accused were going to Khulna from Satkhira with a large consignment of shrimps injected with gel to increase their weight, a Rab team laid a trap and intercepted two to three vehicles to make the seizure on Thursday night. The detainees will be handed over to police, Rab sources said.



Medium-sized prawns at New Market and Gallamary kitchen market, which went for Tk 600 to 700 per kilo, now go for Tk 650 to 800, while large lobsters are being sold for Tk 800 to 1,200 per kilo in Notun Bazar and Rupsha Ghat market.

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