

Amid water stands a community clinic

500 families can't access healthcare during monsoon in Habiganj

MINTU DESHWARA

There is only water, stretching as far as the gaze can reach. Amidst this submerged world, stands the Madhabpasha Community Clinic.

This clinic is the lifeline for the residents of Madhabpasha village, nestled in the Jalsukha union of Ajmiriganj upazila in Habiganj.

With approximately 500 families and 1,500 eligible voters, this small village relies heavily on the services provided by this humble medical facility.

However, during the monsoon season, when the village is swallowed by the relentless floodwaters, reaching the clinic becomes an impossible feat, leaving the inhabitants in dire need of medical care.

Sixty-five-year-old Amir Hossain said, "The clinic remains waterlogged till the end of monsoon. Even after the water recedes, it takes several months for the mud to dry and the road to be repaired, resulting in the clinic's closure for about four to five months each year."

Ashok Ali, another resident, highlighted the dire consequences of this situation, as

the rainy season brings forth an outbreak of water-borne diseases like cold, fever, and cough.

However, due to the lack of communication and clinic inaccessibility, villagers are unable to seek medical help and must rely on local village doctors in the upazila.

With a sense of urgency, locals have expressed their concerns to the health department and public representatives, demanding a swift solution to ensure uninterrupted healthcare access for the community.

Anamul Haque Milad, a local journalist, said the clinic is located on low-lying land, merely 50 feet away from the village road. However, the absence of a concrete road connecting the clinic to the village causes the problem, he said.

Repeated calls for construction of a proper road has fallen into the deaf ears of the authorities concerned, he added.

Madhabpasha Community Clinic health care provider Rashina Akhter echoed the same.

However, she goes from door to door as much as possible through boats in order



Madhabpasha Community Clinic remains surrounded by water for at least four months a year. Due to a lack of accessibility, locals are often unable to seek medical help. This photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: STAR

RANA PLAZA TRAGEDY
SC stays Soheli Rana's bail for six months

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday stayed for six months a High Court verdict that granted bail to Soheli Rana, owner of Rana Plaza, in a murder case.

At least 1,135 people, mostly garment workers, were killed and over 2,500 others injured as the nine-storey building came crashing down in Savar on April 24, 2013.

The Appellate Division of the SC also kept stand over (waiting for hearing) a petition filed by the state challenging the HC verdict.

A full bench of the Appellate Division headed by Chief Justice Hasan Foez Siddique passed the order after a brief hearing on the petition.

The HC judgement that granted bail to Rana will remain halted following the apex court order, his lawyer Md Quamrul Islam told The Daily Star.

Deputy Attorney General Sarwar Hossain Bappy represented the state.

On April 6, the HC granted bail to Rana.

Wali Ashraf, a sub-inspector of Savar Police Station, had filed the murder case against building owner Soheli Rana, his father and others.

Clogged drains add to waterlogging woes

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

For the residents of Mymensingh, waterlogging due to poor waste management has become a seemingly never-ending problem.

Locals alleged that the city goes under filthy water even after a little rain due to the poor drainage system, causing untold sufferings.

The stench from stagnant water and sewage has made living unbearable, as many city dwellers including children are forced to wade through the submerged road for lack of rickshaws and other modes of transportation.

Sewage contaminates the stagnant water because of the poor drainage system, resulting in greater health risk for the residents, according to experts.

Besides, the stagnant water has become a breeding ground for

mosquitoes, raising alarm for a dengue outbreak, said Araz Ali, a local.

During a recent visit to Makarjani canal on Mymensingh city's Ram Babu road, this correspondent saw that the drains were not cleaned, leading to waterlogging in adjacent areas.

Not just this sewage line, many other city drains were found in a similar condition. Nazrul Islam Chunnun, convener of citizens' forum Jono Uddyog, said, "We thought the situation would improve after the government recognised Mymensingh as the country's 12th city corporation in 2018. But the city drains still remain dirty, creating waterlogging." "The city drains and canals must be cleaned up on a regular basis," he added.

City corporation sources told this correspondent that

the manpower crisis is the main reason behind this situation. They also blamed residents for filling up waterbodies.

Mohabbat Ali, conservation inspector of Mymensingh city, said they are continuing their cleaning drives to tackle waterlogging issue during monsoon.

He also said around 600 workers are involved in cleaning and waste management activities in 33 wards. "The number is not enough."

Meanwhile, the city corporation has started drain and sewerage cleaning drives in different areas.

Mayor Ekramul Haque Titu said they have also initiated drives against illegal structures built on drains and canals.

"In addition, we have also started awareness campaigns in the city to make people aware of dengue," he added.



PHOTO: STAR

Three killed, 15 injured in clash over land in Rajshahi

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

At least three people were killed and 15 injured during a clash over a land dispute in Rajshahi's Godagari upazila yesterday.

The clash took place around 9:00am at Yaspur village between men of two employees of government offices.

The deceased are: Naimul Islam, 80, and Meher Ali, 70, of Baragachi Kanupara village of the upazila, and Soheli Rana, 45, of Bhatapara area of Rajshahi city, said Sonaton Chakroborty, an additional superintendent of police in Rajshahi. Naimul and Meher Ali are brothers.

According to police, Selim Reza, an employee of Rajshahi Deputy Commissioner's Office, and Ashik Chand, an employee of Barind Multipurpose Development Authority, has had a long-running dispute over 14 bighas of land.

Yesterday morning, when Selim's men went to plant paddy saplings on the land, Ashik's men attacked them with sharp weapons.

All the deceased were on Selim's side, the police official said. Their bodies were sent to RMCH morgue for autopsy. Police are investigating the incident.

Six killed in road accidents

STAR REPORT

Six people were killed and at least 16 injured in road accidents in three districts during the last two days, according to reports from our correspondents.

In Narayanganj, two teenage motorcyclists were killed as a car ran them over on Dhaka-Chattogram highway in Siddhirganj area yesterday.

Police said the accident happened around 5:10am on the western side of Kanchpur Bridge as they fell off their motorbike after hitting a road divider.

Shakil Khan, 19, of Dhaka's Matuail Dakkhinpara area; and Robiul Islam Tutul, 19, from Pabna's Sujanagar upazila died on the spot.

Shimrail Highway Police Camp Inspector AKM Sorfuddin said the two were going to Dhaka on a motorcycle. When they crossed Kanchpur Bridge, the rider lost his control over the vehicle, resulting in the accident.

The car driver managed to flee, said the police officer.

In Panchagarh, Azaharul Islam, 30, was killed as a truck hit him while he was crossing Panchagarh-Banglabandha highway in Tentulia on Sunday evening.

He died at Rangpur Medical College Hospital early yesterday.

In another accident, two motorbike riders were killed and another was injured as a truck hit their bike while they were getting on Boda-Debiganj road from a link road at Laxmirhat village in Debiganj upazila yesterday.

Dipu Roy, 17, and Sabuj Roy, 18, died on the spot while Ajit Roy was critically injured.

Ajit was undergoing treatment at Rangpur Medical College Hospital.

In Patuakhali, a bus driver's helper Mamun, 35, was killed and at least 15 passengers were injured when their vehicle fell into a ditch beside Kuakata Kalapara road in Mohammadpur area yesterday, said Kalapara Police Station OC Ali Ahmed.

The injured were undergoing treatment at Kalapara Upazila Health Complex.



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Corrigendum

Tender Notice No. 54.01.1500.115.02.105.23 dated 25.06.2023 published by Office of the Chief Electrical Engineer (East) is hereby corrected as below:

	As in the Tender Notice	Corrigendum
10	Period and last date for selling tender document	On all office days within working hour from 9.00 hrs. to 16.00 hrs. from the date of advertisement of the tender notice up to 12.07.2023
11	Time for submission of tender	Up to 11:00am of 13.07.2023
12	Time for opening of tender	At 12:00pm on 13.07.2023

All other parts of notice will remain unchanged.

Md. Habibur Rahman

Chief Electrical Engineer (East) (Add. C)
Bangladesh Railway, CRB, Chattogram

এস(২৩) (২১৮)
GD-1095

'Create safe environment for voters'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

All the political parties have to work together to make the upcoming national elections peaceful, said speakers at a meeting in Khulna yesterday.

People come to politics with different beliefs, but they should respect each other and have to be non-violent, they said.

In the political arena, an environment should be created so that the voters can go to polling stations to exercise their franchise without fear, said the discussants.

Rupantar organised the meeting in collaboration with International Republican Institute and USAID, at a city hotel.

Khulna city Mayor Talukdar Abdul Khaleque said they are trying to create an amicable political environment.

Shafiqul Alam Mona, convener of Khulna city unit of BNP, emphasised on restoration of people's voting rights.



বাংলাদেশ কৃষি গবেষণা ইনস্টিটিউট
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স্মারক নং-১২.২১.০০০০.০১০.৪১.৬২৫.১৯.০৫০

তারিখঃ ০৬/০৭/২০২৩খ্রিঃ

তালিকাভুক্তির নবায়ন বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এতদ্বারা বাংলাদেশ কৃষি গবেষণা ইনস্টিটিউট (বারি) এর তালিকাভুক্ত ঠিকাদারদের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, চলতি অর্থ বৎসরের (২০২৩-২০২৪খ্রিঃ) জন্য বারি এর বিভিন্ন ক্যাটাগরীর ঠিকাদারদের তালিকা নবায়ন করা হচ্ছে। সরকারী বিধি মোতাবেক সকল শ্রেণীর তালিকাভুক্তির নবায়ন ফি ২০০০/- টাকা এবং ১৫% হারে ভ্যাট বাবদ ৩০০/- টাকা আলাদাভাবে পে-অর্ডার এর মাধ্যমে মহাপরিচালক, বারি এর অনুকূলে জমা প্রদান সাপেক্ষে তালিকা নবায়ন করার জন্য সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলকে অনুরোধ করা হলো। তালিকাভুক্তি নবায়নের সর্বশেষ তারিখ আগামী ৩১/০৯/২০২৩খ্রিঃ (অফিস চলাকালীন সময়) পর্যন্ত।

তালিকাভুক্ত ঠিকাদারগণের মধ্যে যাহারা ২০২২-২০২৩খ্রিঃ অর্থ বৎসর বা তার পূর্বে তাদের তালিকাভুক্তি নবায়ন করেন নাই কিন্তু বর্তমানে নবায়নের জন্য আবেদন করেছেন/করতে ইচ্ছুক তাদের তালিকাভুক্তি নবায়নের জন্য প্রত্যেক বৎসরের নির্ধারিত নবায়ন ফি, ভ্যাট এবং ২৫% জরিমানাসহ আগামী ৩১/০৯/২০২৩খ্রিঃ পর্যন্ত মধ্যে নবায়ন করা যাবে। তালিকাভুক্ত যে সকল ঠিকাদারের বারি, গাজীপুরস্থ ক্যাম্পাসে সেড রয়েছে তাদের তালিকাভুক্তি নবায়ন প্রক্রিয়া সেড না সরানো পর্যন্ত স্থগিত থাকবে।

তত্ত্বাবধায়ক প্রকৌশলী (ভারপ্রাপ্ত)
বারি, গাজীপুর

জিডি-১০৯১