

A bridge for them, by them

Students take it upon themselves to build bamboo structure over canal



Alor Dishari, a student-led organisation, constructed this makeshift bridge on Bilashchhora canal to ensure commuting for hundreds of students in Dhobighat area of Sreemangal's Kalighat union.

MINTU DESHWARA, Moulvibazar

"The school is about 2.5 kilometres from my house. But I only have to walk for about half a kilometre to reach it, and don't even have to take off my shoes while crossing the canal on foot," said Nigom Tanti, a fifth-grader at Kalighat Government Primary School.

Alor Dishari, a student-run social organisation, has built a makeshift bridge on the Bilashchhora canal to ensure safe commuting for hundreds of students like Nigom, at Dhobighat area in Sreemangal's Kalighat union of Moulvibazar.

The canal becomes quite risky during the monsoon as the water level rises, shared Shitol Kaluar and Himu Kairi, six graders of the same school. According to locals, they have been demanding a bridge and a road connecting it to the main road for the last two decades.

However, the union parishad failed to initiate a project due to a lack of funds, said Pranesh Goala, union parishad chairman.

"The bridge has to be a hundred feet long, but we don't have enough funds to construct it. We need the authorities to step in and help us," he added.

On one side of the canal are the tea estates, markets, temples, and mosques, while schools, central roads, and government offices are located on the other side of the waterbody.

The 100-foot bridge, operational since Sunday, is structured on a frame made of tree trunks and bamboo donated by locals, mostly tea-estate workers, from their gardens.

"Some donated bamboo and logs from their gardens, while some gave us ropes. A total of 45 student volunteers took turns and completed the works within a couple of weeks," said Paritosh Kumar Tanti, president of Alor Dishari.

During a recent visit to the area, this correspondent saw hundreds of children, especially in uniforms, running over the bridge in joy. While the bridge may become risky if not replaced by a stronger structure, the makeshift construction has made the lives of the locals a lot easier.

"We have solved the problem temporarily, but it is necessary that the authorities take up a project in this regard as soon as possible," added Paritosh.



A tale of survival

FROM PAGE 5
bus, which was heading towards Jhalakathi from Bhandaria of Pirojpur.

When this correspondent spoke to Momen, the bus was being pulled out from the waterbody.

There were family members running around and asking law enforcement and fire service officials about their loved ones.

"It all happened in just a couple of seconds... I remember as the bus was plunging I kept telling my wife - save me, the bus is drowning."

"The bus went seven to eight feet into the water within minutes..." Momen said.

Once in the water, Momen said, he was desperately trying to break the window next to his seat. "But I could not. I tried to keep calm but it

was impossible to do so... I saw an open window near my seat and swam out of the bus through that," he added.

However, Mamun's tale of survival is filled with grief as well.

"While I was escaping the bus through the window, I saw a child in front of me struggling... he was stuck... I tried to pull him towards me but could not. I tried again, but it might have been the seat handle or something... I could not save him," said Momen as tears rolled down his eyes.

"I could not hold my breath any longer... I had to leave him..." he could not finish the sentence as if he had run out of words to describe the tragedy that unfolded in front of him inside the bus.

"I have to live with this loss for the rest of my life."

Land dispute

FROM PAGE 3
Jhantu Molla left for Thailand after the murder. Due to tannery business related matters, they had to come back to the country. Jhantu was arrested from the airport area while Monir was arrested in Benapole, according to DB.

The DB said Monir, also known as Company Monir, is a well-known figure in the Hazaribagh area of Dhaka.

He has been involved in several criminal cases in the past including murder and land grabbing. He was arrested in 2002 and 2015, but was released due to political influence.

Monir started working in a tannery factory in the 1980s. Under the patronage of top terrorist Imon, Monir started buying and selling raw leather. He also became involved in land acquisition and land brokerage.

Police press charges

FROM PAGE 5
The hacking took place during the upgradation work of bdris.gov.bd, the official server for birth and death registrations.

The officials of CCC ward-40 (North Patenga), ward-41 (South Patenga) and ward-16 filed the three cases on June 9, 2021 under the Digital Security Act.

Asif Mohiuddin, additional deputy commissioner (crime and operation) of CT, told The Daily Star, "Khalid and Khairul knew each other. As a programmer, Khalid knew about the previous server's details and took the advantage of that information."

SI Shapan Kumar Sarkar said, "We found Khalid's details but are yet to arrest him. Although he left the Birth Register General Office in 2016, he kept the password and user ID; through those, he had issued a good number of birth certificates by taking money via local agents."

Meanwhile, the CT has been investigating three more cases filed with Khulshi, Patenga and Akbar Shah police stations over similar issues.

A fraud ring illegally issued around 796 birth certificates

Qualified

FROM PAGE 3
and sovereignty, the PM said Bangladesh does not want to engage in a war with anyone as it believes in peace.

"A peaceful environment is a prerequisite for development," she said.

The PM said the army has been playing a praiseworthy role by standing beside the people during any disaster and critical period. "Our patriotic army always stands by the people of the country," she said.

She said the independence and sovereignty of a country cannot be protected without public trust and confidence. "The people have trust and confidence in our army," she said.

They'll

FROM PAGE 5
Of the deceased, three were children, eight women, and six men. The injured include 21 men and 12 women.

Khadija Begum, 40, and her daughter Khushbu Akter, 16, were in the same bus, heading towards Barishal for a doctor's visit.

The accident claimed their lives too.

"They will never return home. I cannot imagine they are no more," mourns Md Rahmat Ullah, the grieving son of Khadija.

Tareq, 32, an owner of a pharmacy in Pirojpur, was taking his seven-year-old son, Mahadi, to a doctor in Barishal.

Although Mahadi survived, Tareq died in the accident.

Talking to this newspaper at the hospital, Tareq's brother Abdul Khaleq said, "Tareq's death turned Mahadi's life upside down. He hasn't uttered a single word till now."

Have enacted laws

FROM PAGE 3
in 2012," he said.

The minister said these while addressing an event titled "Gender-Based Violence Bench Book Launch" at a city hotel as the chief guest.

USAID's Promoting Peace and Justice Activity in Bangladesh organised the event, said a press release.

Two bench books named "Judicial Bench Book on Addressing Gender-Based Violence in Bangladesh" and "Bangladesh Judicial Bench Book on the Prevention of Operations Against Women and Children Act, 2000" were launched on the occasion, the release added.

Anisul said these laws stand as formidable pillars in the fight against violence and gender-based discrimination, ensuring

that the rights and dignity of all citizens are respected and protected.

Furthermore, to guarantee the effective implementation of these vital legal instruments, the government has established a network of 101 specialised "Prevention against Suppression Women and Children Tribunal", he added.

Will continue
FROM PAGE 3
go to the polls under this government."

Mahmudur Rahman Manna, convener of Nagorik Oikya, said, "People do not want an election under 'illegal' government. We have started our movement on the streets to restore democracy. We will continue our movement until this government resigns."

Pothole-riddled roads a nightmare for commuters

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narsingdi

Various roads in Narsingdi remain in a dilapidated condition for a long time due to a lack of repair, increasing sufferings of commuters.

The roads from Narsingdi College to Velanagar under Sadar upazila, and Hasnabad Bazar to Monipura Bazar in Raipura upazila, stretching about five kilometres, have been damaged.

Besides, a road in Amtoli area under Belabo upazila and more than 100-150 spots across the district, which would add up to at least 8-9km, have remained unfit for vehicular movement, said locals.

About 30,000-40,000 people use these roads to commute and transport vegetables and other necessary items to and from Dhaka, according to sources.

Numerous trucks, buses, three-wheelers and rickshaw-vans regularly ply the roads, they said.

Over 100 ditches and potholes have developed on the roads that pose a risk of accidents. The situation gets worse during the monsoon when rainwater accumulates in those craters.

Around 15 people, including rickshaw-pullers and drivers of vehicles, shared their experiences with this correspondent on different occasions.

"The road from Narsingdi College to Bhelanagar area is in a very poor state. Accidents are a regular occurrence on this road. It is difficult to pull the rickshaw on such roads," said Kazal Mia, 28, a rickshaw puller.

The connecting roads to the local market in Gatebazar area are also severely damaged, informed Abdur Rahman, a 56-year-old farmer from the Sadar's Puranpara area.

"Transport workers are often reluctant to make trips on this road, and the ones who are interested demand high fare," he said.

Patients, who have to go to the Sadar hospital via Monipura Bazar or Hasnabad Bazar are the worst sufferers, said Shahadat, a government employee and resident of Raipura's Hasnabad.

Acknowledging the facts, Tofazzal Hossain, senior assistant of Local Government and Engineering Department in Narsingdi, said they will repair the roads in the municipality area. The other roads in the district will be repaired by the upazila engineer office, he added.



Over 100 ditches and potholes have developed on the roads in Narsingdi town that pose a risk of accidents. The situation gets worse during the monsoon when rainwater accumulates in those craters.

EASTERN BANK LIMITED
HEAD OFFICE, 100 GULSHAN AVENUE, DHAKA-1212

TENDER NOTICE

Eastern Bank Limited invites sealed bids from bona fide/eligible suppliers for following services/items:

- Lot 1: EBL ICT Infrastructure Assessment and Review of Overall Security Posture
- Lot 2: Datacenter Gap Analysis, Gap Remediation Consultancy and Certification.
- Lot 3: Network Equipment for Datacenter

Interested bidders are requested to collect the RFP document electronically by sending an email from their official email address to bidit@ebl-bd.com mentioning item name, the name of the company, authorized contact person, mailing address, telephone & mobile phone numbers on or before **Thursday, 27 July 2023**.

Bids prepared in accordance with the instructions contained in the RFP document must be submitted in two separate envelopes, clearly marking "Technical" and "Financial" on the envelopes to the Office of the Chairman, Purchase Committee, Head Office, Eastern Bank Limited, 100 Gulshan Avenue, Dhaka-1212 on or before **Monday, 14 August 2023**.

Tenderers are allowed to bid for all lots or any lot separately. Any bid not submitted separately against each lot will be rejected. However, common documents need not to be submitted for each lot. Submission with one lot is enough.

4 killed
FROM PAGE 5
taken to Rajshahi Medical College and Hospital.

Bholahat Police Station OC Selim Reza said the accident occurred around 7:45am when the Bholahat-bound pickup from Shibganj collided with the oncoming Shibganj-bound three-wheeler.

The injured were rushed to the upazila health complex. Both the vehicles were seized and the bodies were handed over to the victims' families, said the OC.

বাংলাদেশ কমার্স ব্যাংক লিমিটেড
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৩১/৭/২৩

বাগদাদ-ঢাকা কার্পেট ফ্যাক্টরী
(বাংলাদেশ পাটিল কর্পোরেশনের একটি প্রতিষ্ঠান)
উত্তর কাটাঙ্গী, চট্টগ্রাম

বাগদাদ-ঢাকা কার্পেট ফ্যাক্টরীর শ্রমিক বন্দোবস্তি বিক্রি-এর উত্তর ও পশ্চিম পার্শ্বের ফাঁকা মোট ২.৯৭ একর জায়গা (একটি ছত্রাবাসহ) বছর ভিত্তিক ন্যায়ন খাপসকে ও বছরের জন্য নিজ/ভাজা প্রদান করার নিমিত্ত দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে। দরপত্র সিডিউল আঙ্গাদী ১২/০৮/২০২৩ তারিখ বিকাল ৪.০০ ঘট পর্যন্ত (১) মিল কার্যালয়ের হিসাব শাখা, (২) বিজ্ঞপত্রমাঝি আব্দুল করিম, আদাবাব, চট্টগ্রাম হতে ১০০০/- (এক হাজার) টাকা জমা সাপেক্ষ পাওয়া যাবে এবং উল্লিখিত কার্যালয় সমূহে রাখিত স্টেমার বাগে আঙ্গাদী ১৩/০৮/২০২৩ তারিখ দুপুর ১২.০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে জমা দেয়া যাবে। ১৩/০৮/২০২৩ তারিখ দুপুর ১২.০০ ঘটিকার সময় দরদাতাদের উপস্থিতিতে (যদি কেউ উপস্থিত থাকেন) স্টেমার বাগ খোলা হবে। উক্ত মূল্যের উপর ৪% আর্নেস্টমা্নি (ফেরতযোগ্য) হিসেবে জমা দিতে হবে। দরপত্র সিডিউলে বিস্তারিত উল্লেখ থাকবে।
জিডি-১১৪০

৩১/৭/২৩
Md. Moin Uddin Ahmed
Executive Engineer
DPHE Pirojpur District.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
DPHE, Pirojpur District, Pirojpur.
www.dphe.pirojpur.gov.bd

Invitation for e-Tender notice

1	Ministry / Division	Local Government Division.
2	Implementing Agency	Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE).
3	Project/ Program Name	Revenue Budget.
4	e-Tender IDs (with Package Number)	854412 (Rev/Pir/RMSE 2022-23), 854710 (Rev/Pir/Road_2022-23), 854723 (MBTW/2729) and 854727 (MBTW/2734).
5	Description of works	(Rev/Pir/RMSE_2022-23): Estimate for Repair and Maintenance of the Sanitary and others Works at EE, DPHE Office, Pirojpur in FY 2022-23. (Rev/Pir/Road_2022-23): Road maintenance of the Executive Engineer office and construction of connecting road for newly constructed Lab Building of DPHE in Pirojpur District FY 2022-23. (MBTW/2729): Installation of 64 Nos DTV with 6 No. Hand Pump at Sadar (10 Nos), Indurkani (12 Nos), Bhandaria (19 Nos), Mathbaria (03) and Najipur (20 Nos) in Pirojpur District under Revenue Budget on Priority Basis in Houses Built for Landless and Homeless Families on the Occasion of Mujib Centenary in FY 2022-23 (4 th Phase). (MBTW/2734): Installation of 127 Nos Shallow Tubewell (STW) with 6 No. Hand Pump at Nazipur (29 Nos), Bhandaria (35 Nos), Mathbaria (28 Nos), Indurkani (31 Nos), and Sadar upazila (04 Nos) in Pirojpur District under Revenue Budget on Priority Basis in Houses Built for Landless And Homeless Families on the Occasion of Mujib Centenary in FY 2022-23 (4 th Phase).
6	Name & Designation of official Inviting Tender	Md. Moin Uddin Ahmed, Executive Engineer, DPHE, Pirojpur District.
7	This is online Tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the national e-GP Web Portal and no offline/ hard copies will be accepted. Interested persons/ firms can see details in the website: www.eprocure.gov.bd	

GD- 1138