

1,577 fire incidents, 4 deaths in Sept

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Four people were killed and 11 injured in 1,577 fire incidents throughout the country during September, according to data of Fire Service and Civil Defence.

Among the incidents, 155 took place in Dhaka -- 27 more than in August -- shows the data released yesterday.

It indicated that Dhaka had the highest number of fire incidents with 603 cases, followed by 189 in Chattogram, 225 in Rajshahi, 132 in Khulna, 63 in Mymensingh, 57 in Sylhet, 60 in Barishal, and 248 in Rangpur.

However, the overall number of fire incidents decreased in September, as the country witnessed 1,667 fire-related occurrences in August.

Notably, Mirpur, Mohammadpur, Hazaribagh, Tejgaon, Baridhara, and Uttara areas in the capital experienced the highest number of these incidents.

Additionally, fire service took part in rescue operations of 787 accidents nationwide in September.



NUMBER OF FIRE INCIDENTS	DIVISIONS	CASES
	Dhaka	603
	Rangpur	248
	Rajshahi	225
	Chattogram	189
	Khulna	132
	Mymensingh	63
	Barishal	60
	Sylhet	57

SOURCE: FIRE SERVICE

These accidents resulted in 184 fatalities and 777 injuries. Of them, 590 were related to road accidents, while others were attributed to gas cylinder mishaps, gas pipeline faults, elevator accidents, lightning strikes, and drowning in water bodies.

In Dhaka, 11 individuals were killed in 49 different types of accidents.

Mirpur, Mohammadpur, Tejgaon, and Old Dhaka had the highest frequency of accidents.

Overall, 159 accidents took place in Dhaka, 55 in Mymensingh, 102 in Chattogram, 201 in Rajshahi, 88 in Khulna, 27 in Sylhet, 41 in Barishal, and 114 in Rangpur.

The Fire Service and Civil Defense responded to 4,354 calls for fire and various accidents in September. They also provided ambulance services for 1,098 patients through 1,152 calls.



DHARLA TURNS FURIOUS

Homesteads, lands lost to the river

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

On Sunday afternoon, Laxmi Rani, 70, could be seen crying next to the Dhalra riverbank. "How will I survive? My homestead and five decimals of land have been lost to river erosion," she said.

Over the last eight years, 12 bighas of arable land owned by Laxmi had also been devoured by the Dharla.

Similarly, Sarbanu Bewa, 60, Nimai Chandra Barman, 50, Mansur Ali, 65, Mizanur Rahman, 48, Khaendra Nath Barman, 66, and many others from Bumka village in Lalmonirhat sadar upazila were seen crying.

Their homesteads, arable lands, bamboo clusters and fruit orchards had fallen prey to river erosion, one after another.

Sarbanu Bewa lost her home, six decimal land and a half bigha of bamboo cluster to the river. Now, she is living under the



open sky as she has no money to purchase land or build a house.

Local Khagendra Nath Barman said their arable lands, homesteads and fruit orchards were being devoured before their eyes, since Sunday morning. Three bighas of aman fields have already been eroded and four bighas of arable lands are under serious threat of being lost at any moment.

Moghalhat UP Chairman Habibur Rahman said at least 10 homesteads, 50 bighas of arable

land, some fruit orchards and bamboo clusters have been lost. The affected families are taking shelter on a road, a portion of which has also been eroded.

"We have prepared a list of people and they will receive government assistance soon," he said.

Shunil Kumar, executive engineer of WDB in Lalmonirhat, said WDB staffers visited the spot and are preparing to prevent the erosion by dumping geo bags.

By-polls to Laxmipur-3

FROM PAGE 3

AKM Shahjahan Kamal, and Brahmanbaria-2 lawmaker Abdus Sattar Bhuiyan on Saturday.

EC sources said the election commission was divided on the question of holding by-elections in those two constituencies, only a few months ahead of the next general polls.

The 12th National Election is likely to take place in the first week of January next year.

Two of the five commissioners were in favour of not holding the by-polls keeping the national elections just a few months away. Three others, however, were in favour arguing that the current parliament still has more

than 90 days in office.

Voting in the two by-elections will end before the national election schedule.

The current parliament's five-year tenure will end on January 29. Under the constitution, the next national election must be held within 90 days before the five-year term of the current parliament expires.

We respect sovereign

FROM PAGE 3

development with its people and political parties.

Hasanul Haque Inu, president of Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal, said the citizens are enough to shape the country's political and economic aspects, rejecting any external interference.

"A certain political party wants the war criminals to clinch the power by portraying them as innocent individuals. We won't allow such an act in the notion of a fair election," he said.

Rashed Khan Menon, president of Workers' Party, said Bangladeshi people do not see visa policies or sanctions as challenges, but BNP clings to it with false hopes.

Dilip Barua, general secretary of Bangladeshesher Samyabadi Dal, criticised the current government for its failure to curb corruption and stabilise prices of essentials.

"We are committed to participating in the election, regardless of whether any other party

chooses not to join, as we believe the election will be held in time," he added.

Several leaders and activists of different units of the party attended the programme.

Journos

FROM PAGE 3

or threat to do so is like disrespecting the people of a sovereign country and its independent media.

"We want to protest this insult," said Chowdhury, who also served as the president of Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists for a number of terms.

Former president of Dhaka Union of Journalists Quddus Afrad, former BFUJ president Manjurul Ahsan Bulbul, former secretary general Abdul Jalil Bhuiyan, DUJ acting president Manik Lal Ghosh and joint general secretary Khairul Alam were present, among others.

Justice for Journalists president Kamrul Islam delivered the welcome speech.

Couple held

FROM PAGE 3

health concerns. Sagar, who was nearby, overheard the conversation and learnt that Babul had spent between Tk 15,000 and Tk 20,000 on ayurvedic medicine for his ailment without relief.

Sagar then presented his wife as a competent quack and promised treatment to Babul for Tk 90,000.

According to the arrangement, Sagar and his wife visited Babul's residence that night after purchasing 50 sleeping pills from a pharmacy in Mouchak area of Gazipur and mixing the pills in juice to administer it to the family as an ayurvedic concoction.

After the victims became incapacitated, the couple tied them up, said Moin.

However, when Sagar found only Tk 5,000 in the house, in a fit of rage, he resorted to violence, and took the lives of the victims with a kitchen machete, the Rab official added.

A cartoonist's

FROM PAGE 3

various stakeholders."

"We may not be able to maintain this good condition at all times, but our primary goal was to raise awareness about responsible waste disposal. I urge citizens to conscientiously dispose of their waste in designated areas to keep our country clean," Mishu added.

However, during the visit yesterday, this reporter found the canal had already started accumulating trash once more, with waste piling up under the bridge.

Councillor Asif Ahmed

said, "A group of young individuals had informed me about their initiative, and they managed to clean the canal. However, waste has accumulated again within just three days."

He said this canal flows from Hazaribagh and collects debris along its course, eventually emptying into the river. So it's tough to determine who is responsible for waste disposal.

Over the matter, Mishu said, "People will continue to dispose of waste, and it won't cease. However, if we make regular cleanup efforts, we can significantly reduce the problem."

Modernise drainage

FROM PAGE 3

DNCC Mayor Atiqul Islam said they were planning to turn the Kalyanpur canal into a project like Hatirjheel.

He said it would be a suicidal decision if the canals are demarcated based on Mahanagar Survey, demanding canals be demarcated based on Cadastral Survey.

Illustrating his fight against encroachers, he said in Basila, there was a truck stand on the Lauthola canal, which he reclaimed by staying there for three days. Now the canal is a free-flowing one.

Brig Gen Muhammad Amirul Islam, chief engineer of DNCC, said utility lines that go through drainage systems slow down the receding of storm water, spilling it over to nearby areas.

He stressed the need for demarcating canals and evicting illegal structures.

Md Ataur Rahman, professor of Department of Water Resource Engineering at Buet, said storm water caused by six hours of rainfall on September 21 took 32 hours to recede.

The way forward is to build a nature-friendly drainage system, along with enlarging the diameter of existing underground drainage pipes, reclaiming the canals, bordering with walkways, building capacity of drainage system, setting

up pump stations and coordinating among government agencies, he noted.

"We need major transformative changes, as incremental development won't help us any longer. Around 113 mm rainfall is not much rain in quantity, but due to our drainage system all are suffering," he pointed out.


The Daily Star Editor and Publisher Mahfuz Anam said the newspaper welcomes the initiative of DNCC led by Mayor Atiqul Islam and will extend the support in their endeavour to turn Dhaka into a beautiful city.

"The fundamental reality of Bangladesh is that it has a huge population against its limited lands. Dhaka serves as an epitome of such reality. When you have limited resources and huge demand, the way forward is planning. But, in the whole landscape, political will is pivotal," he said.

"Padma Bridge is a shining example of the government's political will. It came into a reality as behind it was the prime minister and her government's strong resolution," he said.

"We need a similar strong political will to reform Dhaka," he added.

Prof Md Abul Kashem Mia, vice-chancellor of UIU, chaired the seminar.



Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)

PKSF Bhaban, E-4/B, Agargaon Administrative Area, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207

Phone: 88-02-22218331-33, Website: www.pksf.org.bd


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Request for Expression of Interest (REOI)

A. Basic Information (Procuring Entity, Assignment, Procurement Method, Source of Fund, etc.) for the Consulting Firms:	
1	Name of the Organization
2	Procuring Entity Name & Designation
3	Expression of Interest for Selection of
4	EOI Ref No
5	Package No.
6	REOI Publishing Date
7	Procurement Method
8	Source of Fund
9	Development Partner
10	Project Name
11	EOI proposals submission closing date, time, and place
B. Key Information for the Consulting Firms:	
12	Brief description of the assignment
13	Experience, resource, and delivery capacity required of the consulting firm
14	Other Details
C. Procurement Entity details	
15	Name of the Official
16	Designation of Official
17	Address of the Official
18	Contact Details of Official

The Procurement Entity reserves all the rights to accept or reject all EOI proposals.

(AQM Golam Mawla)
Deputy Managing Director & PE



খুলনা শিপইয়ার্ড লিমিটেড

বাংলাদেশ (নৌবাহিনী, খুলনা)

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

তারিখ: ২২/১০/২৩-২৪ ০৩ অক্টোবর ২০২৩

০১।	ক্রমিকার নাম	খুলনা শিপইয়ার্ড লিমিটেড, বিএন, খুলনা।
০২।	ক্রমিকার মালিকের বিবরণ এবং পরিচয়	১) এম এস প্রো (শিপইয়ার্ড), সাইজ ৬০০০ X ২০০০ X ৮০ মিঃ = ২৫,০০০ বর্গ ২) এম এস প্রো (শিপইয়ার্ড), সাইজ ৬০০০ X ২০০০ X ১০০ মিঃ = ৬০,০০০ বর্গ
০৩।	দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তির তারিখ	০৫ অক্টোবর ২০২৩ হতে ১১ অক্টোবর ২০২৩ (অফিস চলাকালীন সময় পর্যন্ত)।
০৪।	দরপত্র জমাের তারিখ	১৬ অক্টোবর ২০২৩ (সেবা ১১:০৫ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত)।
০৫।	দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	১৬ অক্টোবর ২০২৩ (সেবা ১১:৩০ ঘটিকা) খুলনা শিপইয়ার্ডের প্রোগ্রামিং ভায়ে।
০৬।	দরপত্র গ্রহণের স্থান	ক) খুলনা শিপইয়ার্ড লিমিটেড এর হিসাব বিভাগ (কোম্পা শাখা) হতে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে। খ) নৌ-উপকরণ, বিল্ডিংকন বামাশাখা, বিল্ডিংকন, ঢাকা হতে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে।
০৭।	দরপত্র দাখিলের স্থান	খুলনা শিপইয়ার্ড লিমিটেড এর প্রকল্প ম্যানেজার (কোম্পা শাখা) হতে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে। খ) নৌ-উপকরণ, বিল্ডিংকন বামাশাখা, বিল্ডিংকন, ঢাকা হতে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে।
০৮।	টেন্ডার ডকুমেন্টের মূল্য	টাকা ২,০০০/- (টাকা দুই হাজার মাত্র অক্ষরকৃতমূল্য)।
০৯।	জামানতের পরিমাণ	উদ্ধৃত মতের ৩% হারে খুলনা শিপইয়ার্ড লিমিটেড এর অনুমোদিত ডিভি/প-অর্ডার আকারে (ফেরতযোগ্য) প্রদান করতে হবে।
১০।	যোগাযোগের মাধ্যম	ফোন: ০২-৪৪১১০৬৮৭/৪৪১১৯৯০ ফ্যাক্স: ৮৮-০২-৪৭৭৭২০৪০৪ ইমেইল: dgmi.ksy@gmail.com ওয়েবসাইট: www.khulnashipyard.com
১১।	বিশেষ নির্দেশাবলী	খুলনা শিপইয়ার্ড লিমিটেড কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিক্রমকে যে কোন/সকল দরপত্র গ্রহণ/প্রতিল করার অধিকার সংরক্ষণ করেন।

তারিখ: ১০-২১ ডিজিটাল (সিগনচার)