

## Port city gears up for Durga Puja

Artisans busy putting finishing touches on idols

ARUN BIKASH DEY, Ctg

With Durga Puja knocking at the door, artisans in the port city are passing busy days making idols.

Durga Puja, the biggest religious festival for the Hindus, will be held during October 20-24 this year.

However, the idols have to be delivered to the puja mandaps by October 19. With a little more than a week left to finish the works, the artisans are relentlessly working in their “pratimaloys” (workshops), putting the final touches on the idols.

Visiting Shib Durga Mrit Shilpaloy, a pratimaloy located in Chatteshwari Road area, on Tuesday, this correspondent found the artisans busy crafting idols of the deities – Laxmi, Saraswati, Kartik and Ganesh – alongside Durga.

It takes about 8-10 days to make a set of idols for Durga Puja. The price usually ranges from Tk 35,000-60,000, depending on designs, said Paresh Paul, chief artisan of the pratimaloy.

“I started as a junior artisan about 12 years ago and set up my own team about five years back. Now, I lead a team of six artisans and we make about 12 sets of idols every Durga Puja. Besides working in my workshop, I also make idols in different mandaps on contract,” he said.

There are myriads of pratimaloys located in the port city, including Sadarghat Kalibari, Dewanji Pukur Par, Bosh Brothers Lane, Hazari Lane, Pathorghata and Nalapara areas.

According to artisans, the task begins with the construction of a body-shaped structure with bamboo and straws. Once done, clay is applied on the structure and polished to give it the shape before it is left for drying. Once dry, the process of painting and decorating the idols begin.

This year, Durga Puja will be celebrated in over 2,000 mandaps in the district, including 278 mandaps in the city alone, said Shyamal Kumar Palit, president of Chattogram District Puja Uddhayan Committee.

Meanwhile, CMP Commissioner Krishna Pada Roy, in a press briefing, said four-tier security measures would be taken in the city during the puja to thwart any untoward situation.



PHOTO: STAR

**Grabbers have already cleared around 300 square feet of the forest by cutting a chunk of hill and felling around 30 trees, which are all punishable offences under the Forest Act-1927.**

## Reserve forest being razed for housing

SIFAYET ULLAH, Ctg

A section of Tulatoli Reserve Forest under Chunati range of Chattogram South Forest Division is being razed illegally to construct structures including houses.

Grabbers have already cleared around 300 square feet of the forest by cutting a chunk of hill and felling around 30 trees, which are all punishable offences under the Forest Act-1927.

According to the Forest Department, the 2,394 acres of Tulatoli Reserve Forest is home to many species of plants including Shegun, Ghamari, Mahogany and wildlife including elephants, peafowls.

These plots were recorded as reserve forest in a gazette issued in 1931, as per the documents of the department.

Upon finding evidence of razing the reserve forest illegally, officials of the forest department filed a case accusing four persons under the Forest Act-1927.

“On information, we conducted drive and seized some machineries which were being used for forest destruction. However, we failed to arrest anyone from the spot as the grabbers managed to flee,” said Md Shah Alam, forest officer of Satgar area under the Chunati range.

“Besides, we sued four for entering the reserve forest without permission and illegally razing the forest for constructing houses,” he added.

According to the Forest Act-1927, the punishment for both crimes is up to six months of imprisonment or Tk 5,000 fine, or both for the first time.

A local, requesting anonymity, alleged that a woman named Bulu Barua

and her family members have been destroying the reserve forest for the past one year, and are now cutting hills and felling trees to build houses under the nose of the administration.

The Forest Department is yet to take any legal action against them, said locals.

Contacted, Bulu Barua admitted to razing forest for constructing houses, saying, “We are forced to stay in the forest as we have no land in the levelled area to build a home.”



Abdullah Al Mamun, divisional forest officer of the Chattogram South Forest Division, said, “We have decided to form a committee to investigate whether any forest department staffer is involved in the forest destruction. If anyone is found to be involved, we will take action against them.”

Mohammad Kamal Hossain, former professor of Institute of Forestry and Environmental Science at Chittagong University, said, “If encroachers start establishing settlements in reserve forest, the greenery will be destroyed gradually. Forest Department should take strict action against encroachers to save the forest.”



An artisan puts the final touches on an idol in the port city's Sadarghat area yesterday.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN


**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Office of the Executive Engineer  
Education Engineering Department  
Narail  
[www.eed.narail.gov.bd](http://www.eed.narail.gov.bd)

**e-Tender Notice No. 1271-43/2023-2024 Date: 11/10/2023.**

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of the following works Under EED, Narail District as mentioned below.

Sl No.	Tender ID No.	Package No.	Identification of package	Procurement Method	Tender Document last selling/ Downloading Date & Time	Tender Closing Date & Time
01	884035	NARAIL/REV/ TMED/2021-22/WR-01	Construction of Single Storey Academic Building with 4-Storey Foundation In/C. Sanitary, Water Supply & Electrification Works at Narail Islamia Fazil Madrasah, Sadar, Narail.	OTM	30/10/2023 (16:00)	31/10/2023 (13:00)

This is an online tender where only e-Tender will be acceptable in the National e-GP system portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender A1 renewed up to FY. 2022-23 enlistment Category Contractor of Education Engineering Department under All District who are registered in the National e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) will be eligible. The fees for downloading the e-Tender Document from the National e-GP system portal have to be deposited online through any registered Bank's branches up to 12:00 on 31/10/2023. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP system portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)). The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tender(s) without assigning any reason what so ever.

  
Arunava Roy  
Executive Engineer  
Education Engineering Department  
Narail.

GD-1573

## SC bans posters, banners on premises

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Pasting posters and hanging banners on the buildings at the Supreme Court premises without permission from the authorities concerned has been banned.

The SC administration has issued a notification to this effect on Tuesday.

In the notification, the administration said pasting posters and hanging banners on the structures at the SC premises, including SC Bar Association buildings, without permission from them has totally been prohibited to protect its solemnity and sacredness.

The SC administration asked the individuals and organisations concerned to remove the posters and banners, if they have any, from the court premises in three days.

## Four killed, two hurt as bus hits human haulier

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

Four persons -- including the driver of a human haulier -- were killed and two others injured when a bus hit the human haulier from behind in Manikganj yesterday.

Following the accident on Dhaka-Aricha highway at Bhatbaur in Sadar upazila in the morning, the human haulier plunged into a roadside ditch, said police.

The deceased were identified as Mahadev Modak, 52; Zahid Hossain, 34, the driver; Hena Akhter, 50; and Maleka Begum, 55. The injured are Md Musa, 50, and Nasir Hossain, 45.

Alamgir Hossain, an eyewitness, said the human-haulier was going to Manikganj bus stand. A bus of Akij Textile hit it when it stopped at Bhatbaur to drop a passenger off.

Gola Highway Police Station Officer-in-Charge Shukendu Basu said they seized the bus but the driver managed to escape.

Deputy Assistant Director of Manikganj Fire Service Shariful Islam said, “We recovered the bodies and sent them to hospital morgue for autopsy.”

Meanwhile, a woman and her nephew were killed as a truck hit a motorcycle they were riding in Bochaganj upazila in Dinajpur yesterday afternoon, reports our local correspondent.

Champa Rani Roy, 22, from Jalgaon village, and her nephew Joy Roy, 5, from Anora village, died on the spot.



## DENGUE OUTBREAK 13 more die, 2,425 get hospitalised

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 13 more people died from dengue in 24 hours preceding 8:00am yesterday. Of the 13 deaths, 10 were reported from outside the capital.

Around 2,425 dengue patients were hospitalised in the same period, according to DGHS.

So far, dengue has claimed at least 1,122 lives this year, with nearly 2,31,204 being infected, making this the deadliest year since the first recorded epidemic in 2000.

According to DGHS data, 8,647 dengue patients were undergoing treatment at different hospitals across the country as of yesterday morning.

Meanwhile, IGRD Minister Tazul Islam at an event yesterday said, “Despite all our efforts, this year has seen a record number of deaths due to dengue, causing immense pain and suffering. While a death from dengue is not desirable, there remains much more for us to do...”

 **ঢাকা পাওয়ার ডিস্ট্রিবিউশন কোম্পানি লিমিটেড**  
**DHAKA POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LIMITED**  
(An Enterprise of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh)  
Website: [www.dpdc.gov.bd](http://www.dpdc.gov.bd)

Memo No: 87.404.401.07.02.001.2023.129 Date: 09.10.2023

**JOB OPPORTUNITY**

**Name of the Post: Assistant Manager (HR). Number of posts 14\*. Please visit [www.dpdc.gov.bd](http://www.dpdc.gov.bd) for detail job circular & submit online application by 31.10.2023.**

Deputy General Manager, Employee Management (Administration), HR, DPDC

 **শেখ হাসিনার উদ্যোগ**  
**মুদ্রিত নথি**

**Office of the Manikganj Pourashava**  
District: Manikganj  
[www.manikganjpourashava.com](http://www.manikganjpourashava.com)

Memo No: MPS/Engr-2023/810 Date: 10.10.2023

**Tender Notice No: 01/2023-2024**

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of Works as mentioned in the following table:

Tender ID No.	Package No.	Description of Works	On-line (e-GP System) tender publication date & time	On-line (e-GP System) tender closing date & time
884218	IUIDP-2/MAN/ P-10	(1) Improvement of BC Road from Jorina College more to south side Kaliganga River by Bituminous Dense Carpeting (DC) (Ch. 00m-320m), under Manikganj Pourashava, District : Manikganj. (2) Construction of RCC Pipe Drain from Jorina College more to south side Kaliganga River (Ch. 00m-320m), under Manikganj Pourashava, District : Manikganj. (3) Improvement of BC Road from Boyalia Mosque to H/O Khorshed Via Mayor old House by Bituminous Dense Carpeting (DC) (Ch. 00m-140m), under Manikganj Pourashava, District : Manikganj. (4) Construction of RCC Pipe Drain from Boyalia Mosque to H/O Khorshed Via Mayor old House by Bituminous Dense Carpeting (DC) (Ch. 00m-140m), under Manikganj Pourashava, District : Manikganj. (5) Improvement of BC Road from Bahirkhola Mosjid to End of Pourashava by Bituminous Dense carpeting (DC) (Ch.00m-375m) & Link-1: H/O Mosjid to Majhipara Bottola (Ch. 00m-210m), under Manikganj Pourashava, District : Manikganj. (6) Construction of Uni Block Paver Road from Nobogram Graveyard to H/O Ata Kha (Ch. 00m0160m), under Manikganj Pourashava, District : Manikganj. (7) Improvement of BC Road from Nobogram-Jagir Roads H/O Hakim Ali to H/O Uzzal by Bituminous Dense carpeting (DC) (Ch. 00m-85m), under Manikganj Pourashava, District : Manikganj.	12-10-2023 10:00 AM	02-11-2023 2:00 PM
884220	IUIDP-2/MAN/ P-11	(1) Rehabilitation of Road from North Side R&H Office to H/O Yeakub by Bituminous Dense Carpeting (DC) (Ch. 00m-250m), under Manikganj Pourashava, District : Manikganj. (2) Rehabilitation of Road from Bonogram Mosque to north H/O Lutfor by Bituminous Dense Carpeting (DC) (Ch. 00m-200m), under Manikganj Pourashava, District : Manikganj. (3) Rehabilitation of Road from East Dashora H/O Samolhore to South side Biswa Ijema Math by Bituminous Dense Carpeting (DC) (Ch. 00m-150.), under Manikganj Pourashava, District : Manikganj. (4) Rehabilitation of BC Road from Nobogram-Dergram Road to H/O Siraj by Bituminous Dense Carpeting (DC) (Ch. 00m-250m), under Manikganj Pourashava, District : Manikganj. (5) Rehabilitation of Road from Nobogram bridge to Dergram bazar by Bituminous Dense Carpeting (DC) (Ch. 00m-800m), under Manikganj Pourashava, District : Manikganj. (6) Rehabilitation of Road from Charhijuly Main Road near H/O Jonab Ali to Charhijuly Graveyard Via H/O Manik by Bituminous Dense Carpeting (DC) (Ch. 00m-180m), under Manikganj Pourashava, District : Manikganj.	12-10-2023 10:00 AM	02-11-2023 2:30 PM

These are an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the 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. The fees for downloading the e-tendering documents from the national e-GP Portal have to be deposited on line through any registered banks branches up to 02-11-2023, 12:00 PM Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP system portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

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GD- 1571