

CTG-NAZIRHAT ROUTE

Passengers suffer for
delayed works of 2 stations

SIFAYET ULLAH, Ctg

Bangladesh Railway started rebuilding Chowdhuryhat and Katirhat stations on the Chattogram-Nazirhat route in 2019. After four years, the construction is only halfway done, and the stations remain closed, causing daily difficulties for hundreds of passengers.

The Chattogram-Nazirhat route, with eight stations built in 1930, used to have three pairs of trains operated by BR, serving 2,500 passengers (before the reconstruction project started) and facilitating goods transport.

"The train used to be the perfect mode of transportation for me as it's cheap. However, as the station has been closed for the last four years, I have to take the road now, which is expensive," said Ramzan Ali from Katirhat, who commutes to the port city for work every day.

Due to the closure, BR is also suffering losses, as they are being deprived of revenue from ticket sales.

During a recent visit to the stations, this correspondent saw only the roof and the perimeter walls of Chowdhuryhat station has been completed, while the contractors are yet to start the floor works of Katirhat station.

Karnaphuli Builders and Suppliers, a construction firm, was given the contract

for the reconstruction works of the two stations. The 120-day project, at a cost of Tk 84 lakh, was scheduled to be completed by December 2019.

However, the project was put on hold shortly after it began in August 2019.

Contacted, Shahadat Hossain Tanim, owner of the firm, said the works could not be completed as the company has been going through a "financial downturn".



Chowdhuryhat Station

PHOTO: STAR

Abdul Hanif, executive engineer of Chattogram BR, said they have asked the contractor to complete the project several times, but they did not listen.

"We are planning to cancel the work order and call a fresh tender to complete the works," he added.

Factories dumping
wastes in reserve forest

Admin yet to take steps, allege locals

MINTU DESHWARA

Raghnandan Hill Reserve Forest in Madhabpur upazila of Habiganj is facing a severe environmental crisis due to indiscriminate dumping of industrial waste.

Numerous industries in the vicinity have allegedly been dumping organic and plastic wastes beside a hill within the protected forest for over five years.

According to locals, the dumping of wastes began after several factories were set up 10 years ago without proper waste disposal facilities in Shahjibazar area of Madhabpur upazila and in Raghnandan hilly area.

However, as the spot where wastes are being dumped is located between Shayestaganj and Madhabpur upazilas, near the railway tracks of Dhaka-Sylhet route, neither of the upazila administrations are able to take action due to administrative complication, said Baghasura union parishad chairman Sahabuddin Ahmed.



Garbage, mostly consisting of non-biodegradable plastics, being dumped beside a hill in the Raghnandan Hill Reserve Forest in Habiganj's Madhabpur upazila.

PHOTO: STAR

Visiting the site recently, this correspondent observed that locals were having difficulties to move across the railway tracks due to littering, while foul odour emitted from the site.

Raju Mia, a local, said the administration is silent on this matter, although it has been going on for several years.

Locals urged factories to implement proper waste disposal

facilities.

"Wild animals and birds may die from eating plastic or decomposed organic matter dumped here," said Tofazzal Sohel, general secretary of Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon, Habiganj unit.

Burning plastic also causes severe air pollution, posing health hazards to wildlife and humans, while non-biodegradable wastes pollute the soil and groundwater, destroying the forest's natural topography, he added.

Contacted, Tariq Rahman, assistant conservator of forests in Habiganj, said forest department is working on how to address the issue.

"The matter will be informed to the higher authority and steps will be taken accordingly," said Saifullah, railway assistant engineer (roads) in Shayestaganj.

Manjur Ahsan, Madhabpur upazila nirbahi officer, said necessary action will be taken against those dumping wastes in the forest after informing the district commissioner.

Bhasani's 47th death anniv today

FROM PAGE 3

prayers, food distribution and a doa mahfil at the central mosque on the campus.

Maulana Bhasani fought against the imperialism and oppression of Pakistani rulers. He led the historic Farakka Long

March in 1976. He was the founder of the Pakistan Awami Muslim League. He also formed a progressive political organisation called National Awami Party (NAP). Bhasani played a significant role in the 1969 movement.

The brave and devoted

leader worked relentlessly and spent almost his entire life for the oppressed masses, which earned him the title "Mazlum Jana Neta", meaning the leader of the oppressed.

PRAYER
TIMING
NOVEMBER 17

Fazr Juma Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 5-05 12-30 3-45 5-21 7-00

JAMAAT 5-40 1-15 4-00 5-24 7-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

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S/L	Designation	Educational Qualification	Experience
01	Gyneocologist and obstetric specialist	MBBS, PGTDGCV/FCPS/MS/MCPS/CCD	1-3 Years
02	Internal Medicine Specialist	MBBS, PGTF/CPS/MDI/MCPS	3-5 Years
03	Medical Officer (Ophthalmology)	MBBS, PGY (Eye), DO	1-3 Years
04	Medical Technologist (Laboratory)	Diploma in Labortary	1-2 Year
05	Senior Accounts Officer	BBA, MBA, equivalent	3-5 Year

আগ্রহী প্রার্থীগণকে আগামী ৩০/১১/২০২৩ ইং তারিখের মধ্যে ই-মেইল অথবা সরাসরি নিম্নোক্ত ঠিকানাঃ আবেদন করার জন্য অনুপ্রাণিত করা যাচ্ছে।
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Focus on urban

FROM PAGE 3

Stressing the necessity of NIDs for low-income and poor people, Khushi Kabir, coordinator of Nijera Kori, asserted that every citizen has the right to obtain an NID. Providing NIDs to the poor is crucial for realising other necessary benefits.

Prof Adil Mohammad Khan, former general secretary of the Bangladesh Institute of Planners, suggested integrating poor people into the mainstream, rather than addressing their issues in a scattered manner.

Abu Sayeed Khan, advisory editor of Samakal, proposed allocating a specific portion of every housing project for the poor. He also advocated for reserving seats in schools, colleges, and universities for poor students, free of cost.

Hosne Ara, a representative of slum dwellers, said despite being the driving force of a city, they lack proper respect. She demanded environment-friendly housing facilities for slum dwellers, under a long-term instalment process.

Jahangir Alam, urban researcher and coordinator of BARSIC, stressed the need to address the problems of the urban poor, as these issues often go unaddressed.

Sheikh Rokon, associate editor of Samakal, moderated the programme.

Jyotiraj Patra and Nabinur Rahman, programme director and policy advisor of Concern Worldwide Bangladesh, along with Rifat Bin Sattar, deputy country director (programme operation) of Save the Children Bangladesh, spoke at the event, among others.

Germany to fund
3 govt projects

Agreement for €25.5 million signed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Germany will fund €25.5 million in three government projects, including one for making Bangladesh's cities more liveable.

Three technical cooperation agreements between the two countries were signed in this regard yesterday.

Sharifa Khan, senior secretary of Economic Relations Division (ERD), and Andreas Kuck, country director of GIZ in Bangladesh, signed the agreements, according to an ERD press release.

The projects are "Liveable and Inclusive Cities for All (LICA)", "Access to Justice for Women: Strengthening Community Dispute Resolution and Improving Case Management (A2 Justice)" and "Strengthening Institutions for Climate Change Adapted Water Resource

Management in Dhaka".

Germany will fund up to €5.5 million for LICA project, which will be implemented by LGED.

The objectives are to make basic urban services more sustainable, climate-adapted and inclusive. It also focuses on the integrated management of green spaces, water bodies and waste.

For A2 Justice, Germany will fund €15.5 million and the project will be implemented by the Law and Justice Division.

For "Strengthening Institutions for Climate Change Adapted Water Resource Management in Dhaka", Germany will provide up to €4.5 million and it will be implemented by LGED.

The project targets institutional and technical foundations to ensure water quality in the Meghna.

NITU MURDER

HC confirms
death penalty
of youth

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday confirmed the death penalty of a Milon Mondal for killing 14-year-old Nitu Mondal.

Milon, 20, a third-year BBA student of Syed Abul Hossain College in Kalkini upazila of Madaripur, stabbed Nitu on September 18, 2016 on her way to school as she rejected his advances.

Nitu, 14, a ninth-grader of Nabogram High School, died when she was being taken to Madaripur Sadar Hospital the same day.

Villagers caught Milon, of Isharkandi village, when he was trying to flee after the incident.

Yesterday, the HC bench of Justice SM Kuddus Zaman and Justice Md Aminul Islam delivered the verdict after rejecting the appeal filed by Milon challenging the trial court judgement that on August 21, 2021 sentenced him to death in the case.

Senior Advocate SM Shahjahan and lawyer SK Rezaul Karim appeared for Milon.



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NOTICE

The Board of Directors of National Credit and Commerce Bank Limited (NCCBL) in its 508th meeting held on Thursday, November 16, 2023, among others, has decided to hold 10th Extra-ordinary General Meeting (EGM) of the Bank as under:

i	Date and Time	Tuesday, January 02, 2024 at 12:00 Noon
ii	Venue	The meeting will be conducted virtually by using "Digital Platform"
iii	Record Date	Thursday, December 07, 2023

The EGM will be held with a view to approve the amendments of the following Articles of the Articles of Association of the Bank through Special Resolution subject to approval of Bangladesh Bank with or without any modifications:

1) Article-2(vi):

Existing	Proposed Amendment
"Chairman" and "Vice Chairman" means the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Company for the time being elected under Article-109;	"Chairman" and "Vice Chairman" means the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Company for the time being elected under Article-108;

2) Article-2(xii):

Existing	Proposed Amendment
"Managing Director" means the Managing Director of the Company appointed under Article-125 and as per rules of Bangladesh Bank;	"Managing Director" means the Managing Director of the Company appointed under Article-124 and as per rules of Bangladesh Bank;

3) Article-4(1):

(2nd Para) The shares in the Company shall be held by the following groups of shareholders:

Existing	Proposed Amendment
i. Group-A-Bangladesh Sponsors / Directors -50%	i. Group-A: a) Sponsors/Directors, excluding the Shareholders and Directors from Group-B and Group-C, and shall also include the persons who have received shares from a Group-A Sponsor/Director through transfer or transmission of the shares of a Group-A Sponsor/Director being an heir of such Group-A Sponsor/Director; and b) Any shareholder who has received shares from the Sponsor/Director through blocked transaction or private negotiation; and persons who received shares from such shareholder being an heir to the same may also be considered as a Group-A Sponsor/Director. -50%

Note:

i. The Members' whose names would appear on the 'Record Date' in the Member/Depository Register of the Company are eligible to participate the meeting and casting vote.

ii. All members are requested to update (if required) their respective BO Accounts [Mailing address, email, Bank Account details, Taxpayer's Identification Number (e-TIN), Contact number etc.] before Record Date.

By order of the Board of Directors
Sd/-
Md. Monirul Alam, FCS
SEVP & Company Secretary

Dated: Dhaka
November 16, 2023