

Destroying croplands for brick kilns

Local influentials stealing topsoil from fields near Arial Kha, other rivers

SUSHANTA GHOSH, Barishal

Agricultural land along the Arial Kha river is scarred by huge holes, 8-12 feet deep, from illegal topsoil extraction for brick kilns. This not only destroys the land's fertility and reduces crop yields, but also weakens riverbanks, making them vulnerable to erosion. Despite farmers' protests, authorities are yet to take action, leaving many losing their arable lands.

The situation is particularly worse in Commissioner Char (shoal) in Barishal's Muladi upazila. The status quo is more or less the same in shoals under Hijla, Mehendiganj, Babuganj and Bakerganj upazilas of the district.

A section of influential people, including Moshir Rahman, owner of NRB Bricks at Auliapur village in Bakerganj, is behind these illegal activities, according to farmers and authorities concerned.

On January 23, Moshir was fined Tk 20,000 on the charge of stealing topsoil and using it in his brick kiln.

Contacted, Moshir denied the allegations. When asked as to why he was fined, he evaded the question.

Altaf Payada, a resident of Commissioner Char, said the culprits are using excavators to extract the soil late at night and transporting it using trawlers to brick kilns.

"The topsoil from around 10 percent land of the shoal, around three square kilometres area, has already been extracted. Due to the rampant soil extraction, farmlands are turning into ponds in many places," he added.

Mohammad Ali, a resident of Janpur village, said, "People are losing their agricultural



Topsoil being extracted illegally along the banks of Arial Kha in Barishal. The soil, being sold to brick kilns, not only loses its fertility but such actions also make the banks more vulnerable to erosion. PHOTO: STAR

lands along the Meghna river, while many are becoming homeless due to erosion. At least 10 brick kilns are operating with soil extracted from the riverbanks in Hijla upazila alone."

Md Shawkat Osman, deputy director of Department of Agricultural Extension in Barishal, said, "Extraction of topsoil causes removal of gypsum and zinc from it. Due to this, the organisms present in the soil become

less functional and reduce the soil's fertility." Locals in Kalaskathi union under Bakerganj upazila formed a human chain in August last year, protesting the illegal soil extraction from riverbanks. Many of the affected shared their ordeal there.

"Every day, around 30-35 trawlers transport soil extracted from the banks of Pandab river

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Man's throat-slit body found at office

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

A man was found dead at his farm in Savar yesterday. Police recovered the throat-slit body of Kazim Uddin, 50, from the cattle farm adjacent to his house at Dendabar Uttarpara in Ashulia.

Criminals might have killed him sometime between early morning and 10:00am yesterday, said OC AFM Syed of Ashulia Police Station.

According to police and the victim's family, Kazim, a contractor of Dhaka Palli Bidyut Samity, stayed in the office room of his farm at night as he did so often.

On information from a farm employee that the office door was locked from outside, his wife rushed to the spot and found the bloodstained body inside.

Stop construction on Karnaphuli bank Demand port city residents

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A section of residents of Chattogram city at a human chain yesterday demanded that the authorities concerned take effective measures to stop construction of structures on the bank of Karnaphuli river.

The event, held on the premises of Chattogram Port Authority's office, was organised by Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association, Bangladesh Environment Forum, Chattogram Nodi O Khal Rokkha Andolon and Rezaul Karim Shikder Foundation.

Speakers said a new ghat is being constructed on the foreshore of Karnaphuli in the port city's Fishery Ghat area with the land being illegally leased by CPA.

"While the High Court directed CPA to demolish all illegal structures constructed by encroaching the Karnaphuli riverbank several years ago, the state agency took no visible action against the grabbers," said Aliur Rahman, secretary of the Chattogram Nodi O Khal Rokkha Andolon.

The platform's president Chowdhury Farid said they will file a petition with the HC.

Chattogram district administration earlier demarcated the Karnaphuli and identified 2,187 illegal structures on both its banks as per the HC orders in 2015.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
চীফ কর্মশিাল ম্যানেজার (পূর্ব) এর কার্যালয়
বাংলাদেশ রেলওয়ে,
সিআরবি, চট্টগ্রাম-৪০০০।
ই-জিপি টেন্ডার নোটিশ
মোবাইল নং-০১৭১১-৫০৬১১৪, ই-মেইল: ccme@railway.gov.bd

নং-৫৪.০১.১৫০০.১০৭.০৭.০২১.২৪ তারিখ: ০২.০২.২৪ খ্রি।

চীফ কর্মশিাল ম্যানেজার (পূর্ব), বাংলাদেশ রেলওয়ে, সিআরবি, চট্টগ্রাম কর্তৃক National Electronic Government Procurement Portal (https://www.eprocure.gov.bd) এ নিম্নবর্ণিত কাজসমূহের দরপত্র আহ্বান করা হয়েছে

ক্র. নং	টেন্ডার রেফারেন্স নং	অফিস নং	কাজের ধরণ ও কাজ/সরবরাহ কামের নাম	দরপত্রপদ্ধতি	দরপত্র শাখিসের তারিখ ও শেষ সময়
১.	CCME-WD1-2023-24	945987	Works: Supply of polythene, removal of wastage from dustbin and installation of new polythene in dustbin under Divisional commercial officer Dhaka's Jurisdiction.	OTM, NCT	28-FEB-2024 at 12:30Hrs.
২.	CCME-WD2-2023-24	946654	Works: Supply of polythene, removal of wastage from dustbin and installation of new polythene in dustbin under Divisional commercial officer Chattogram's Jurisdiction.	OTM, NCT	28-FEB-2024 at 12:30Hrs.

বিঃদ্রঃ
১. শুধুমাত্র ই-জিপি সিস্টেমে নিবন্ধিত eligibility শর্তাবলী পূরণকারী দরদাতাগণ সরাসরি অংশগ্রহণ করতে পারবেন।
২. দরপত্রে অংশগ্রহণের জন্য দরপত্র দাখিল করা ও দরপত্র জামানত বাদে প্রাপ্য অর্থ নির্ধারিত ব্যাংকে জমা প্রদান করতে হবে।

০২/০২/২৪
(তৌফিক আহমেদ)
ডেপুটি চীফ কর্মশিাল ম্যানেজার/আর (পূর্ব)
পক্ষে- চীফ কর্মশিাল ম্যানেজার (পূর্ব)
বাংলাদেশ রেলওয়ে, চট্টগ্রাম।

S(24)(39)
GD-224

Man sentenced to 6yrs in prison in DSA case

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

The Cyber Tribunal in Rajshahi yesterday sentenced a man to six years imprisonment in a case filed under Digital Security Act 2018.

Mizan Ali Tuhin, 25, of Shibganj in Chapainawabganj was given three years imprisonment under section 25 (I), two years in prison under 26 (I) and one year jail under 29 (I) of the DSA, said Ismat Ara, public prosecutor of the tribunal.

Judge Md Ziaur Rahman gave the verdict. According to the case statement, a victim filed a case against Mizan with a Chapainawabganj court, accusing him of taking her photographs on February 3 last year, while they were studying at Rajshahi New Degree College in 2022.

Later, when she got married in November 2022, the man published edited copies of the images on social media and sent those to her husband.

One dies of Covid

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh reported one Covid-19 death in the 24 hours till 8:00am yesterday.

So far, the Directorate General of Health Services has reported six Covid-related deaths this year.

The number of Covid deaths now stands at 29,483, taking the overall fatality rate to 1.44 percent. According to DGHS, 34 new cases have been reported in the 24-hour period. The total positivity rate currently stands at 13.09 percent.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Upazila Engineer
Upazila: Bandar, District: Narayanganj
www.lged.gov.bd

Memo No : 46.02.6706.000.18.00.24-86 Date: 07-02-2024

e-Tender Notice No.: 10/2023-2024

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP system portal (https://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of works;

Tender ID	Package No	Name of Scheme	Procurement Method	Last selling Date & time	Closing Date & time
945081	e-Tender/PEDP4/NAR/BAN/2023-24/NV2.06642	Construction of Additional Class Room NISHONG GPS under PEDP4	OTM	03-03-2024 16:00	04-03-2024 12:00

This is an online Tender, where only e-Tender 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 (https://www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required. Further information and guideline are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

(Mir Kaisar Risvi)
Upazila Engineer
Bandar, Narayanganj.
E-mail: ue.bandar@lged.gov.bd

GD-221

The Security Printing Corporation (Bangladesh) Ltd.
Gazipur-1703
Local Tender Notice
Website: www.spcl.org.bd

Ref: 14/2023 Dated: 08/02/2024

Name of the works: Construction of Bank Note Printing Hall (Extended Portion) in The Security Printing Corporation (Bangladesh) Ltd, Gazipur-1703

Local tender of abovementioned works are hereby invited from the Contractors having experience of construction work in the departments of PWD/MES/other government, semi-government/autonomous organizations/bank/insurance organizations as per under noted schedule. Tender documents including terms and conditions with specification will be available at the website www.spcl.org.bd. For more details please contact 88-02-996695070. Necessary information are given below:

- Price per tender schedule : 5000.00 (five thousand) Taka only (non-refundable)
- Date of publish of tender : 08/02/2024.
- Last date & time for submission of e-Tender : 10/03/2024 up to 11.00am.
- Date & time for opening of e-Tender : 10/03/2024 at 11.15am.

Bidders may collect the tender schedule from the abovementioned website. Bidders need to submit earnest money Tk 1,25,00,000.00 (one crore and twenty-five lac Taka) only in the form of Bank Guarantee/Pay Order in favour of the "Managing Director, The Security Printing Corporation (Bangladesh) Ltd." along with the price of Tender schedule in the form of a Pay-Order/DD in the tender box kept at Corporation's office in Gazipur on or before the scheduled deadline for submission of Tender. Tender(s) without earnest money and price for tender schedule shall not be acceptable. Offer(s) shall be opened as per schedule mentioned above in presence of the tenderer(s) if any. The authority reserves the right to reject or accept any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever. Submission of tender after the specified time shall not be acceptable under any circumstances.

Md. Rakanuzzaman
General Manager (Bank Note Production & In-Charge Engineering Department)
Phone: +88-02-996695070

GD-218

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Upazila Engineer
Sadar, Patuakhali
www.lged.gov.bd

Memo No. 46.02.7895.000.001.2024-148 Date: 07-02-2024

e-Tender Notice (OTM)-08/2023-2024

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of

SL No.	Package No.	Tender	Name of scheme	Document last selling date and time	Security submission last date and time
1	INF-2021-22-107895-01	948380	Supply and Installation of Solar Panel System Different Primary and High School under Sadar, Patuakhali	28-Feb-2024 12:00	28-Feb-2024 13:00

This is 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.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Md. Azizul Haque
Upazila Engineer
LGED, Sadar, Patuakhali
E-mail: ue.patuakhali-s@lged.gov.bd

GD-227

PRAYER TIMING
FEBRUARY 8

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 5-30 12-45 4-15 5-52 7-15
JAMAAT 6-05 1-15 4-30 5-56 7-45
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

GD-218

ইনস্টিটিউট অব বায়োটেকনোলজি এন্ড ফার্মাসিউটিক্যাল সাইন্সেস প্রতিষ্ঠান করণ-প্রকল্প
বাংলাদেশ বিজ্ঞান ও শিল্প গবেষণা পরিষদ (বিসিএসআইআর)
Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (BCSIR)

Memo No.: 39.02.0000.032.14.030.2022/1251 Date: 07/02/2024

"e-Tender Notice (OTM)"

e-Tender is invited in the national e-GP system Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of following Tender ID.

Sl. No.	Tender ID No.	Name of Tender	Last Date and Time for Tender selling	Last Date and Time for Tender Closing	Last Date and Time for Tender opening
1.	938940	Supply of Furniture (Package No. GD-19).	22-Feb-2024 (12:00)	22-Feb-2024 (13:00)	22-Feb-2024 (13:00)

This is 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.

(Dr. Md. Hossain Sohrab)
Project Director
'Establishment of Institute of Bioequivalence Studies and Pharmaceutical Sciences' Project
BCSIR, Dhaka.

GD-226