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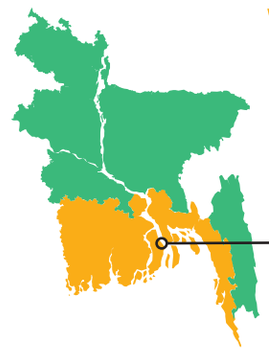
SEA-LEVEL RISE IN BANGLADESH

Faster than global average

Government studies find

- Salinity will reduce south central region's agricultural productivity
- Annual crop damage forecast to be between Tk **431**cr and Tk **670**cr

- Jhalakathi, Pirojpur, Barishal likely to be inundated the most
- Up to 17.95pc areas of the coastal zone may be flooded by the year 2100
- Over 10 lakh people can be displaced



FLOODING TO AFFECT

Bagerhat, Barguna, Barishal, Bhola, Chandpur, Chattogram, Cox's Bazar, Feni, Gopalganj, Jashore, Jhalakathi, Khulna, Laxmipur, Narail, Noakhali, Patuakhali, Pirojpur, Satkhira and Shariatpur

- Human activities have been the main driver of global warming
- Global warming causing sea levels to rise
- Ecosystem of the Sundarbans is threatened

MOHAMMAD AL-MASUM MOLLA

Bangladesh is experiencing a faster sea-level rise than the global average of 3.42mm a year, which will impact food production and livelihoods even more than previously thought, government studies have found.

Twelve coastal districts, where the impacts are expected to be severe, would be subjected to waterlogging, high salinity, crop damage, high temperatures, and excessive rainfall.

People will lose their homes, and poverty will increase, according to forecast studies, which were concluded recently but were yet to be made public.

The average annual sea-level rise for the Ganges tidal flood plain, the Meghna estuarine flood plain, and the Chittagong coastal plain is found to vary from 3.6mm to 4.5mm, 3.7mm to 4.1mm, and 3.1mm to 3.7mm between 1993 and 2019.

"Due to the present rates of local sea-level rise, more than 1 million people may be displaced," found the study titled "Estimation of Sea Level Rise (SLR) in Bangladesh using Satellite Altimetry Data" conducted by the Department of Environment.

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ICB Islamic Bank struggling to pay back depositors

MD MEHEDI HASAN

ICB Islamic Bank, which took shape from the ruins of Oriental Bank in 2008, is now failing to repay the depositors' money due to severe liquidity crisis, indicating a vulnerable situation of the lender.

Abdul Hamid Mahbub, who has a deposit of Tk 1,00,000 at the bank's Moulvibazar branch, was sent back without any money when he visited the bank last week.

"On Tuesday, I went to the bank with a cheque of Tk 55,000, but the branch manager said they had no money at the time," Mahbub told The Daily Star

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- BB rejects the bank's plea for Tk 50cr collateral-free liquidity support
- The bank faces CRR and SLR shortfalls
- The bank has Tk 425cr in liabilities with BB

Metro, railway tussle over yard at Kamalapur

BR says MRT-6 yard will frustrate its plan for Multimodal Transport Hub

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

The metro rail authorities have planned to construct a stable yard near the Kamalapur station, but the Bangladesh Railway argues it conflicts with a plan previously agreed upon by the two parties.

BR authorities say their initiative to turn Kamalapur Railway Station into a Multimodal Transport Hub could face obstacles if the 300-metre-long yardis built there.

However, the metro rail authorities assert that they have to build the yard for smooth operation of trains on Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) Line-6, which is now being extended to Kamalapur.

Railway authorities has writtento Dhaka Mass Transit Company Ltd (DMTCL), the implementing agency of the MRT line projects, expressing reservations about the move.

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Police seize illegal battery-run rickshaws at Doyanganj intersection in Old Dhaka yesterday. Operation of electricity-powered three-wheelers with poor safety features often leads to accidents. The number of such rickshaws in the capital has been going up over the years despite a ban. PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

He wore 16 pieces of clothes, hid 4.4kg gold!

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

After an over five-hour-long flight from UAE's Sharjah, Mohammad Shaheed Mia landed at the Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport at precisely 8:41am on Friday.

As he walked to the customs counter, the officials went on with their usual proceedings, asking if he was carrying any gold.

He admitted to carrying around 100 grammes.

The officials upon seraching, however, found gold ornaments weighing only about 30 grammes. Despite asking him repeatedly and continuing the search, they were told by Shaheed that there was no other gold in his luggage or on his person.

Amid arguments and

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ATTACK ON FOREIGNERS

Bangladeshi students terrified in Kyrgyzstan

PORIMOL PALMA

Mobs attacked medical students, including Bangladeshis and Indians, in Kyrgyzstani capital Bishkek on Friday and now they are staying indoors fearing further attacks.

"We are very scared. We have been staying indoors since Friday evening as mobs attacked hostels and other places of residence of the foreign students," Samia Kabir, a second-year Bangladeshi medical student of International Medical University of Kyrgyzstan, told The Daily Star last night.

> **"We are very scared. We have been staying indoors since Friday evening as mobs attacked hostels and other places of residence of the foreign students."**
>
> **Samia Kabir,**
> a Bangladeshi medical student

Two other students said there are about 1,000 Bangladeshi learners in Bishkek, which attracts foreign students, especially from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Egypt, because of easy admission procedures, low cost and reputed medical education.

There are about 30,000 Indian and Pakistani students in Bishkek. Migrants from South Asian countries also work in the Central Asian country.

Quoting the Kyrgyz press, Pakistan embassy in Bishkek said

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