

BRIDGES OVER HALDIA CANAL

Seven collapsed, 5 more unfit for use

SOHRAB HOSSAIN, Patuakhali

In Barguna's Amtali upazila, there used to be a total 12 bridges in different areas on the 25-kilometre-long Haldia canal.

Of those, seven have already collapsed while the rest five are in a dilapidated condition and largely unfit for use by vehicles and pedestrians.

The bridge adjacent to Haldia Bazar collapsed on June 22, leaving at least nine people dead.

The locals have long been calling upon the authorities concerned to take steps for repairing the existing bridges and construction of new bridges in place of the collapsed ones. However, no step has yet been made to this end.

The Local Government Engineering Department constructed the bridges on the canal in different areas under the upazila between 2002 and 2010 to allow movement of light vehicles like rickshaws and motorcycles as well as to pedestrians.

About one lakh people from Haldia, Chwara and Amtali Sadar unions use these bridges to travel to the upazila town and to neighbouring Patuakhali district headquarters.

The bridges that have collapsed so far are: one in Haldia Bazar, one near Haldia Hat Government Primary School, one in Chawra village, one near Hafezia Madrasa in Lodha area, one near Ibrahim Academy, and one each in Chila and Rari Bari areas.

"We have been communicating to different departments in this regard, urging for initiative to repair the bridges, but no step has been taken yet," said Asaduzzaman Mintu Mallick, chairman of Haldia union parishad.

Contacted, Abdullah Al Mamun, LGED engineer in

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3



Out of 12 bridges in different areas on the 25-kilometre-long Haldia canal, seven have already collapsed while the rest five are in a dilapidated condition. On June 22, the bridge adjacent to Haldia Bazar collapsed, leaving at least nine people dead.

PHOTO: STAR



Student loses eyesight after being 'caned' by teacher

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A seven-year-old madrasa student has reportedly lost vision in one of his eyes after allegedly being caned by a female teacher in Soratoli union of Chattogram.

The incident, which occurred on May 25 at Tahfizul Quran Ideal Madrasa, came to light yesterday after victim Ayatul Islam's mother, Spana Akhter, lodged a complaint with the upazila nirbahi officer's office.

According to Spana Akhter, her son was beaten for failing to prepare his lesson, resulting in severe injury to his left eye.

After the victim was taken to Pahartali Eye Hospital on May 29, doctors diagnosed extensive damage to his cornea, leading to irreversible loss of vision.

The family has expressed their inability to afford treatment in India, which

SEE PAGE 4 COL 8

JAMUNA EROSION

A village on verge of disappearance

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

At least 50 families residing in Char Poulee village under Tangail Sadar upazila are passing sleepless nights as the Jamuna river's erosion worsened this monsoon.

Previously, more than half the village was lost to the river's erosion.

Locals alleged that delay in necessary river bank protection efforts by the authorities gave way to this situation.

"Many houses were lost to the river last Tuesday," said Belal Hossain, member of a local social organisation that helps erosion victims relocate to safety.

Abdul Kader, a villager, said, "Earlier, our ancestral house was lost to the river. On Tuesday, the house we built later was also devoured. How will we survive with no place to live?"

Hunufa Begum, another villager, said her homestead was lost to the river right before her eyes. "We don't want relief. We want a permanent solution," she said.

Local Mohammad Hasan said, "Despite repeated assurances from public representatives, no durable embankment has been constructed

yet. Around 1,600 metres of the river bank still lies unprotected. We demand urgent measures to provide protection from erosion."

Sources at Bangladesh Water Development Board said geo-bags have been dumped on the river bank from Nagarpur upazila to Char Poulee in Sadar upazila, while there is an embankment from Patharghat in Kalihati to Alipur.

But in between, at least 1,625 metres of the river bank lies unprotected.

Nazrul Islam, a Kakua union parishad member, said, "At least 35 families lost their houses in a single day, and a 1.5-kilometre stretch of the village was lost to erosion. Construction of an embankment is urgently needed to save the village."

Contacted, Sazzad Hossain, executive engineer of BWDB in Tangail, said emergency works are ongoing to protect erosion-affected areas.

"New projects have been approved for constructing 1,625 metres of embankment in Char Poulee, as well as Bhairabbari and Alipur areas of Kalihati upazila. It will be implemented in the next dry season," he added.



KURIGRAM SADAR UPAZILA

Dharla devours homesteads, land

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Erosion caused by the Dharla river has taken a severe turn at Satkaluya village of Holokhana union in Kurigram Sadar upazila. Around 14 homesteads, three fruit orchards, two bamboo clusters, 100 bighas of arable lands and around 200 metres of paved road were devoured in the last couple of days.

Some 80 families and over 400 bighas of arable land are still at risk of river erosion.

Holokhana Union Parishad member Abul Kalam and Chairman Rezaul Karim confirmed the information to The Daily Star.

Locals have now taken refuge on a Water Development Board dyke. They have no means of earning and are merely surviving with their families.

One such victim of river erosion, Shefali Begum said their homestead and two bighas of land were consumed by the Dharla before their own eyes. They were only able to save the tin-sheets from two out of their three homes and have now had to settle on the WDB dyke.

They have not received any government support as of yet, she said.

Another victim, Majibur Rahman said he has lost three bighas of arable land and

homestead. Last year, he lost four bighas of arable land as well.

UP Member Abul Kalam said there used to be around 250 families in Satkaluya village. For the last three years, the village has been severely impacted by river erosion.

Currently, there are only 80 families living there. They are under serious threat if the erosion is not stopped on an urgent basis. Otherwise, the village will disappear into the womb of the Dharla.

UP Chairman Rezaul Karim said a list of erosion-hit families has been prepared and sent to the upazila nirbahi officer for government assistance. An application has also been made to the WDB authorities to take urgent measures to stop the erosion, he said.

Sub-divisional engineer of WDB in Kurigram Ismat Toha said a project has been taken up to permanently solve the river erosion at Satkaluya village.

It will be started by appointing a contractor within the next three months. So, no allocation is available to prevent erosion on an emergency basis, he added.

Kurigram Sadar UNO said he visited the affected area and measures will be taken to rehabilitate the affected families soon.



26,181 illegal river bank structures removed in 10yrs

Says state minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

From 2014-2024, 26,181 illegal structures have been removed nationwide, recovering approximately 1,160.62 acres of river land, State Minister for Shipping Khalid Mahmud Chowdhury told parliament yesterday.

He said the total length of the circular waterway around the capital Dhaka is 110km – surrounded by Buriganga, Turag, Balu, Dhaleswari and Shitalakshya rivers.

There are four inland river ports at Dhaka, Narayanganj, Tongi and Mirakdim on the banks of these rivers for the transportation of passengers and goods by inland waterways.

A World Bank study on river restoration has led to a proposed Umbrella Investment Program involving all stakeholders. A national committee has been formed to implement this proposal, aiming to eliminate pollution and promote sustainable development of Dhaka's surrounding rivers, he said.

The state minister also said Chattogram port handles about 92 percent of the country's import-export trade and 98 percent of containerised goods.

PADMA BRIDGE

Tk 1,648cr in tolls collected in 2yrs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader yesterday said a total of 1.27 crore vehicles used the Padma Bridge in the past two years.

The bridge authority has earned Tk 1,648 crore from tolls since the bridge's inauguration on June 25, 2022, he said. Quader made the remarks following a board meeting of Bangladesh Bridge Authority at Setu Bhaban. The BBA, the project's implementing agency, has repaid Tk 948 crore to the Finance Division in six installments.

"Today is a historic day. On this day in 2022, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina opened the bridge."

He said three crore people in 21 districts in the southwestern region are benefiting from the bridge.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Chattogram City Corporation
Tigerpass, Chattogram
www.ccc.gov.bd

আপনার শহরকে পরিষ্কার ও সবুজ রাখুন

শেখ হাসিনার মূলনীতি
গ্রাম শহরের উন্নতি

Memo No. 46.11.1600.002.39.24.0183
Dated: 24/6/2024

e-Tender Notice-CCC/Rev/COS/2023-24/06

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

SI No.	Package No.	Name of works	Tender ID	Tender document last selling/ downloading date and time	Tender closing & opening date and time
1	CCC/COS/458/20	Supplying of Drugs for Matrisadan Hospital, Nagar Sashtho Kendro & Emergency patients (FY 2022-2023) under Chattogram City Corporation.	1000137	10-Jul-2024 13:30	10-Jul-2024 15:00

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. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents of following packages from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank branches up to particular date and time specified on the tender notice.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (<http://www.helpdesk.eprocure.gov.bd>).

CCC/PRD-180/23-24 (5x4)

Md Rezaul Bari Bhuiyan
Executive Engineer (Electrical),
& Controller of Stores
Chattogram City Corporation

GD-1038

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Climate Resilient Livelihoods Improvement and Watershed Management in the Chittagong Hill Tracts
(CRLIWM-CHT) Sector Project
Rangamati.

Memo No Four-3/CRLIWM-CHT/2024/101;
Date: 24/06/2024

Corrigendum Notice

Tender/Proposal: Invitation of Tender No. CRLIWM/Outsourcing/01/2024(Re)
Package No. : CRLIWM/SD-01
Description : Deployment of Manpower through Outsourcing for CRLIWM-CHT Sector Project

Existing:	Amended as:
ITT 32.1 The deadline for the submission of Tenders is: Time & Date: 27 June 2024, till 12:00 pm	ITT 32.1 The deadline for the submission of Tenders is: Time & Date: 01 July 2024, till 12:00 pm
ITT 37.1 Date and time of opening of Tender: 27 June 2024, till 12:30 pm	ITT 37.1 Date and time of opening of Tender: 1 July 2024, till 12:30 pm

Other terms and conditions of the tender schedule will remain all the same.

(Paban Kumar Chakraborty)
Project Director
Phone:01556511231
Email: pd.crliwmcmt@gmail.com

GD-1033