

PHULBARI UPAZILA

Students, locals join hands to repair damaged road

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

A group of students have joined local people to repair a damaged road in Phulbari upazila of Kurigram for the time being until extensive renovation can be made to it.

Visiting the road along Helipad area in Phulbari Sadar union, this correspondent saw sand filled geo-bags were being dumped on the damaged portions of the road to prevent further damage. The work has been continuing since Saturday noon.

The road sustained significant damage due to heavy rains two weeks ago, said locals.

Several thousand people from some 10-12 villages in the vicinity use the road to communicate to the upazila headquarters. Since the road got damaged, no initiative was taken to repair it from the authorities concerned despite repeated requests from the locals.

"Around 18-20 students are working on repairing the damaged parts of the road alongside local people. The effort will continue till all the damaged roads in the area are repaired to make those passable for pedestrians and vehicles," said Shaheerul Islam, a student engaged in the effort.

Mobarak Ali, 65, a local farmer, said, "The students have been working tirelessly to repair the collapsed road even though there is no government allocation for the repairs. We are also working with them."

"If the students remain dedicated to the welfare of the people, the country will progress rapidly," he added.



A group of students, along with locals, repairing a damaged road in Phulbari upazila of Kurigram yesterday. The road had sustained significant damage due to heavy rains two weeks back. The photo was taken near the Helipad area in Phulbari Sadar union.

PHOTO: STAR

100 AL men sued over killing of students

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

More than 100 activists of Awami League and its affiliated organisations have been sued on charges of killing two students during their anti-government movement in Pabna on August 4.

Md Dulal Uddin, father of one of the deceased, filed the case yesterday, said Sadar Police Station Officer-in-Charge Md Rawshan Alam.

However, the OC declined to disclose the names of the accused for the sake of investigation.

"We are investigating the incident and trying to nab the culprits," he said.

The students brought out a procession in Pabna on August 4. Suddenly, the AL men opened fire on them at Traffic Intersection, leaving two students - Md Jahidul Islam, 19, and Md Mahabub Hasan Niloy, 14 - dead and many others injured, said sources.

HC functions resumes on a limited scale today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Judicial functions of the High Court Division of the Supreme Court will resume on a limited scale today.

Chief Justice Syed Refaat Ahmed yesterday constituted eight benches of the High Court with its 13 judges for hearing and disposing of cases.

Among the eight benches, five are division (two judges) benches and three are single (one judge) bench.

There are a total of 82 judges for the HC Division and only two judges, including the chief justice, for the Appellate Division of the SC currently. Of the total 82, three HC judges have been kept away from judicial functions since August 2019 as an inquiry is pending against them.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 8

Only 31mm rain inundates port city



The GEC intersection in the port city yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, City

All it needed was some 31.4mm of rain to submerge many areas of the port city yesterday, once again exposing the dilapidated state of the city's drainage system.

The downpour, recorded between 6:00am and 9:00am, led to vehicle shortages in low-lying areas, forcing many residents to wade through flooded streets to reach their destinations.

Key areas like GEC, Katalganj, and Chawkbazar went under ankle to knee deep water following the rain.

Nizam Uddin, a resident of Katalganj, was forced to walk a kilometre to reach Agrabad due to a lack of available vehicles. "I had to avoid my usual route through Chawkbazar to escape the worst of the waterlogging," he said.

The waterlogging also caused traffic jams at several busy intersections. However, the situation improved by noon.

Residents expressed their frustration over the persistent waterlogging issue, which has plagued the city every monsoon for years.

"We face this problem every year, despite the government spending crores on multiple projects," said Zahid Bin Hossain, a resident of Katalganj. Abdus Sabur from Halishahar echoed the sentiment, questioning how much longer they would have to endure the situation.

Despite ongoing efforts by various government agencies, including the Chattogram Development Authority (CDA), Water Development Board (WDB), and Chattogram City Corporation (CCC), residents have yet to see substantial relief. The four major projects, worth a combined Tk 14,388.74 crore, have been in progress for several years but have not delivered the expected results.

The CDA's "mega project" to address waterlogging, initiated in 2018 at an initial cost of Tk 5,617 crore, has seen its budget balloon to Tk 8,626.62 crore, with the deadline extended to June 2026.

Despite claims from Lt Col Ferdous Ahmed, the project director, that the project has improved water flow in the city's canals, residents remain unconvinced.

Work on the other three projects - two by CDA and WDB initiated in 2017 and 2019, and one by CCC since 2014 - continues, but the completion remains uncertain.

ALLEGATIONS OF VIOLENCE

BNP leader expelled in Patuakhali

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Humayun Kabir alias Naiya Kabir, the president of the BNP's Bauful town unit in Patuakhali, has been dismissed from his post due to his involvement in violent activities.

The dismissal, effective from August 10, follows accusations of vandalism, looting, and issuing threats in various parts of the upazila.

This decision was confirmed in a letter signed by district BNP convener Abdur Rashid Chunnua Mia and member secretary Snehanshu Sarkar Kuttu.

According to BNP sources, after the fall of the Awami League government on August 5, specific allegations against Humayun Kabir came to light.

He was also issued a show-cause notice on August 8.

The district BNP found his responses unsatisfactory, which led to his dismissal.

Efforts to reach Humayun Kabir for comment were unsuccessful as he did not respond to phone calls.

However, his son, Imamuzzaman Anik, who is the BNP student affairs secretary in the municipality, said, "My father is a victim of political conspiracy."

"There is no evidence to support the charges against him," he told The Daily Star.

ARSON ON BCC BUILDING

Vaccination, anti-mosquito drives halted for six days

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barishal

The vaccination of newborns under Expanded Program on Immunisation (EPI), as well as anti-mosquito drives of Barishal City Corporation have remained halted for the past six days after the BCC building came under arson attack on August 5.

According to sources, the annex building of BCC was completely burnt down by miscreants on August 5. All the machinery, equipment and important files, computers and medicines of the EPI and mosquito control departments located in the building were also damaged.

Since then, all the activities of these two departments have been completely halted.

BCC officials, however, said these facilities will be available soon.



Annex Bhaban on Sadar Road in Barishal was set on fire on August 5.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

Sources at EPI department said at least 10,000 children were scheduled to be vaccinated, according to roster. The ice boxes, freezer, and about one lakh vials of medicines for 154 centres across the city were all burnt to ashes in the arson attack.

As a result, vaccination and vitamin programmes for around 5 lakh children are currently suspended.

Rebeka Sultana, a resident of the city's Katpatti area, said, "As the vaccination centre at Ashwini Kumar Town Hall is not operational, I am unable to get my child vaccinated. An official told us to get the vaccination done from hospital."

Dr Pallabi Sultana, acting chief health officer of BCC, said residents of BCC area can get vaccination for their children from Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital and Barishal General Hospital.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

ACC sues 4 over Tk 5.37cr graft

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, City

The Anti Corruption Commission (ACC) has filed a case against four individuals on charges of attempting to misappropriate Tk 5.37 crore by creating forged documents and bills from the public exchequer.

The case was lodged yesterday by Assistant Director Enamul Hoque of Chattogram ACC Integrated Office-1, accusing Munsir Farukh Hossain Mintu, Munsir Sazzad Hossain, Mukit Mandol, and Mohammed Furkan.

Among the accused, Furkan is the accountant at General Hospital in Andarkillah, while the others are employees of MS Ahmed Enterprise.

The case statement said in 2013, the hospital authorities under the Chattogram Civil Surgeon Office invited tenders for purchasing MRS, ICU beds, ICU ventilators, and other equipment worth Tk 5,32,25,000.

MS Ahmed Enterprise won the tender and supplied the equipment, but the items were found to be substandard, prompting the authorities to request their return.

Despite this, from 2019 to 2022, the accused allegedly attempted to withdraw the tender bills by forging documents and the then civil surgeon's signature.



DAWN OF FREEDOM. Two students painting graffiti on the wall of the office of Brahmanbaria deputy commissioner yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

সিলেট গ্যাস ফিল্ডস লিমিটেড
(পেট্রোবাংলার একটি কোম্পানি)
Sylhet Gas Fields Limited
(A Company of Petrobangla)

গ্যাস জাতির সম্পদ।
এর অপচয় রোধ করে জাতির
দায়িত্ব পালন করুন।

Ref: 28.20.9153.142.14.010.24

Dated: 11-08-2024

e-Tender Notice

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

Sl. No.	Package No.	Description of Goods	Tender ID	Last Selling of Tender (Date & Time)	Tender Closing & Opening (Date & Time)
1.	28.20.9153.142.14.010.24/LP-1	Procurement of PLC Module for DCS of 4000 BPD Condensate Fractionation Plant under Sylhet Gas Fields Limited.	1007514	08-Sep-2024 15:00 Hours	09-Sep-2024 12:00 Hours

This is 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 from the National e-GP System portal have to be deposited online through any registered Banks branches.

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

(Tarak Ahmed)
Deputy General Manager (Procurement)
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GD-14