



PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

A man covers his head with a polythene sheet while walking through the cold winter rain. Cyclone Fengal, forming over the Bay of Bengal, brought rainfall to several areas, including Khulna, Dhaka, Chattogram, and Barishal. This photo was taken in Daulatpur area of Khulna yesterday.

KADAMRASUL BRIDGE OVER SHITALAKSHYA

Construction yet to begin 6yrs on

Cost escalates by 28pc

SAURAV HOSSAIN SIAM, Narayanganj

On a cold winter night, Md Nasir, a resident of Ekrampur, found himself desperately looking for a boat at the wharf. The clock had just struck midnight and no boats were in sight.

Nasir was desperately clinging onto his mother Taslima Banu, 60, who had just suffered a stroke and needed to be taken to a hospital as soon as possible. His brother was at his side.

The Ekrampur area is located on the east bank of the Shitalakshya river.

The nearest hospital was on the other side of the river, only accessible by taking a boat and then a car. But there was no boat at the wharf.

"It was a race against time. By the time a boat finally arrived, it was 12:30am. Then it took another 20 minutes to cross the river and find a vehicle to reach the government hospital in Narayanganj city," Nasir said.

Taslima Banu was later shifted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital, where she breathed her last at noon the following day.

"If there was a bridge over the river, my mother would have probably lived today, since she could then be taken to the hospital in less than 10 minutes," Nasir lamented in grief.

The Shitalakshya river flows between Narayanganj district headquarter and Bandar upazila. As such, thousands of people from these two areas have to cross the river regularly using boats from four wharfs, as there is no other alternative, except a ferry service that operates only from the Nabiganj area.

Accidents also happen on this river often, especially during the monsoon.

Local residents have long been demanding a bridge on the river to connect the two areas. In response, candidates always came up with promises to fulfill the demand every time a local or national election approaches.

But no action would happen after the elections, the locals complained.

Finally, Dr Selina Hayat Ivy, following her re-election as mayor of Narayanganj City Corporation, took up an initiative to build a bridge over the Shitalakshya to

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PHOTO: STAR

Local residents cross the Shitalakshya River by boat daily, as the long-promised bridge remains a distant dream. The photo was taken at Ekrampur recently.

MATHBARIA

Canal's land grabbed for market

KM HABIBUR RAHMAN, Pirojpur

A large area of land of Bharani canal has allegedly been grabbed illegally in front of the Begum Sheikh Fazilatunnesa Mahila Kamil Madrasa in Mirukhali union under Pirojpur's Mathbaria upazila for setting up a market.

Locals alleged that Abul Kalam Sharif, former principal of the madrasa, is behind the land grabbing.

Kalam also allegedly constructed a permanent road and iron bridge in front of the madrasa and another concrete bridge nearby.



He has been encroaching on the canal since 2010, after a cross dam was constructed on the canal around 20 years back by Mosharraf Hossain Akan, former chairman of Dhanisafa union parishad, to connect the Phuljhuri and Patakata villages.

Later, Local Government Engineering Department constructed a paved road on the embankment, and another by Roads and Highways Department.

A total of four such cross dams have been constructed on the Bharani canal, and several more dams on other connecting canals, which have been hindering flow of water through the canals and thereby causing shortage of water for irrigating the Aman paddy fields there.

Despite protests from local farmers, local authorities went on with constructing the dams over the years.

The local farmers have since then been facing untold

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Panchagarh temperature drops to 10.3°C

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Winter made its presence felt in full force as the mercury plunged to a bone-chilling 10.3 degrees Celsius in Panchagarh's Tentulia early yesterday, marking the lowest temperature in the country so far this season.

The Tentulia Weather Observatory recorded the temperature at 9:00am yesterday, signaling the arrival of winter ahead of the traditional cold months of Poush and Magh.

Despite sunny skies, the cold was evident.

"The cold sets in after sunset, with gusts of wind from the north," said Sahed Ali, a local resident.

"Even during the day, warm clothes are a necessity," he added.

The pristine skies offered a breathtaking view of the Kanchenjunga peaks, drawing hundreds of tourists to Tetulia at dawn.

"It's mesmerising to see Kanchenjunga in such clarity -- winter adds a unique charm to the view," said one tourist.

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Cyclone 'Fengal' over Bay

STAR REPORT

Dhaka city experienced a light drizzle yesterday evening due to the impacts of the cyclone "Fengal" (pronounced Feinjal) formed over the Bay of Bengal, according to an official of Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD).

BMD Meteorologist Hafizur Rahman said alongside the capital city, several other areas of the country including Chattogram, Khulna and Barishal divisions have also experienced rain due to the cyclone.

However, the cyclone is unlikely to have any major impact on Bangladesh, as it was on course to cross the coastal area of the Indian state of Tamil Nadu, he told this newspaper.

He added that temperatures will drop once clouds accumulated because of the cyclone are cleared.

Meanwhile, in its latest special weather bulletin, BMD said Cyclone Fengal over Southwest Bay of Bengal and adjoining areas moved west-northwestwards and now lies over the same area.

It was centred at 3:00pm yesterday, about 1,685km southwest of Chattogram port, 1,645km southwest of Cox's Bazar port,

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UNPAID WAGES
Tea workers rally in Sylhet

UNB, Sylhet

Hundreds of tea workers and union leaders staged a protest outside Sylhet Cricket Stadium yesterday, demanding immediate payment of their long-overdue wages and measures to safeguard the ailing tea estates.

At the rally, organised by the Bangladesh Tea Workers Federation, speakers talked about the plights of workers from estates like Lakkatura, Kewachara, and Daldali, all under the umbrella of the National Tea Company (NTC). For the past three months, these workers have endured the harsh reality of unpaid wages, plunging their families into dire financial straits.

The crisis, which erupted following the political transition on August 5th, has been met with indifference and inaction. Despite repeated protests and formal appeals to the district administration, the workers have been met with empty promises and broken assurances.

Union representatives said tea workers in Bangladesh face systemic neglect and are marginalised. "The change in government had kindled hope for a better future, but our struggles have only intensified," a union leader said at the rally.

The protesters accused the authorities of failing to fulfill their duty to protect workers' rights and ensure the sustainability of the tea estates.

3 die of dengue, 675 get hospitalised

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least three dengue patients died in the last 24 hours while 675 patients were hospitalised till yesterday morning.

All three deaths were reported in the hospitals at Dhaka South City Corporation.

According to the Directorate General of Health Services, with the new deaths and cases, the death toll rose to 488, while the total number of cases rose to 91,469.

Currently, 3,102 dengue patients are undergoing treatment, of which 1,764 are from outside Dhaka. A total of 87,879 patients have been released till yesterday.

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e-Tender Notice 06/RRD/2024-2025 (OSTETM, NCT) *

The below tenders are online Tenders where only e-Tenders will be accepted in e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, please register on e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>). For more details please contact help desk contact numbers.

Tender ID	Package No.	Name of works	Tender Document last selling Date and Time	Tender Opening Date and Time
1042942	01/e-GP/PMP Road/RRD/20 24-2025 (Re-tender)	PMP (Road-Major) for Construction of DBST at Ch.1+200 to Ch.6+230, Ch.6+730 to Ch.7+075, Ch.7+185 to Ch.12+345, Ch.12+455 to Ch.16+475 & Ch.16+625 to Ch.18+975 ; Rigid pavement at Ch.7+100 to Ch.7+160 (Goalando level crossing), Ch.12+370 to Ch.12+430 (Khan Khanapur level crossing) & Ch.16+500 Km to Ch.16+600 (Basantapur level crossing) and Wearing Course at Ch.02+047 to Ch.02+970 & Ch.03+020 to Ch.03+400 (Daulatdia four lane Right Side) of Daulatdia-Faridpur (Goalchamot)-Magura-Jhenaidah-Jessore-Khulna-Mongla (Digraj) National Highway (N-7) Road under Road Division, Rajbari during the year 2024-2025.	29-Dec-2024 17:00 hours	30-Dec-2024 13:30 hours

*Note: Procurement Method is "One stage Two Envelopes Tendering Method (OSTETM)"

28.11.2024

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Memo No-General-1610/ Stha

Dated-28-11-2024

e-Tender Notice

This is to notify for all concern that the following tender have Published through e-GP Portal.

Sl. No.	Tender ID	Package No	Name of Works	Publishing Date & Time	Last selling Date & Time	Closing Date & Time
1.	1043280	DOA/egp/24-25/08	Computer Software	01-Dec-2024 10:00	18-Dec-2024 10:00	18-Dec-2024 12:00

The interested persons/firms/supplier may visit the website www.eprocure.gov.bd to get details of the tender.

This is an online Tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will not be accepted. To submit e-Tender registration in the National e-GP portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd/>) is required. Further information and guideline are available the National e-GP system portal and from e-GP helpdesk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

(S.M. Anisul Haque)
Executive Architect

(circle-co-ordination, Division-Services)

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Ref. no :57.03.5678.000.018.01.24.22

Date: 26/11/2024

e- Tender Notice (OTM)

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP Portal for the following items. Interested tenderers are requested to visit (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) website for details.

Sl. No.	Tender ID	Name of the Goods	Tender Publication Date & Time	Tender Document Last Selling Date & Time	Tender Opening Date & Time
01.	1039011	Raw Materials and Spare Parts	01 - Dec - 2024 at 11:00:00	17 - Dec - 2024 at 16:00:00	18 - Dec - 2024 at 12:00:00
02.	1040235	Teaching and Learning Materials	01 - Dec - 2024 at 11:00:00	17 - Dec - 2024 at 16:00:00	18 - Dec - 2024 at 12:05:00
03.	1040265	Supply of Furniture	01 - Dec - 2024 at 11:00:00	17 - Dec - 2024 at 16:00:00	18 - Dec - 2024 at 12:10:00
04.	1040278	Supply of Computer Accessories	01 - Dec - 2024 at 11:00:00	17 - Dec - 2024 at 16:00:00	18 - Dec - 2024 at 12:15:00

This is an online Tender, where only e-tenders will be accepted in National e-GP Portal and no official or hard copy will be accepted. Further information and guidelines are available in the national e-GP system portal and form e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

(Khokan Chandra Debnath)
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