

Shops running illegally on CWasa lands

SIFAYET ULLAH, Ctg

At least 16 shops are being run illegally on lands of Chattogram Water Supply and Sewerage Authority in different areas of the port city.

Allegedly, the CWasa Employees Co-operative Society Limited built the shops on the government lands without permission.

Sources said the society receives Tk 2.5 lakh in advance payment and Tk 2,000-4,500 as monthly rent for each shop.

As per data from CWasa's estate department, there are seven shops on its land in Bolirhat, five in Monsurabad and four in Technical Intersection area, all constructed by the society between 2019 and 2023.

The society was launched in 1988, and currently has over 150 members.

Visiting the CWasa's colony in Technical Intersection area, this correspondent observed several businesses being run in the newly constructed shops.

"I rented the shop, paying Tk 5 lakh in advance and Tk



4,000 monthly," said Yeasin Akram Rabby, who runs a grocery shop.

Several other shopkeepers echoed the same.

"Initially, the society rented shops to its members to avoid internal conflict. Then the member rented it to me," said an occupant of a shop in Monsurabad pump house area.

The CWasa's estate department wrote a letter to the society in February last year, requesting it to stop constructing shops on its lands. A probe body was also formed by the ministry concerned to investigate the issue last year.

"We are yet to get the probe report. We also wrote to the society to stop this illegal activity. They, however, ignored the call," said Babul Alam, estate officer of CWasa.

Asked why they built shops by occupying state's land without permission, Mohammed Yousuf, president of the society, said they are doing commercial activities for the welfare of society members.

However, if these shops are built illegally, the CWasa can take action as per the rules, he added.

Contacted, Muhammad Anwar Pasha, managing director of CWasa, said, "I will look into the issue. Action will be taken as per rules if any irregularities are found."

KONGKON KARMAKER, Dinajpur

Residents of 16 villages in Phulbari upazila of Dinajpur have been suffering for the past eight years due to the incomplete construction of a bridge over the Chhoto Jamuna river.

The bridge, intended to facilitate local travel, remains unfinished, forcing villagers to take a 7-kilometre detour for what would otherwise be a 2-kilometre journey.

The project began under the leadership of former union parishad chairman Abdul Aziz Master. Using funds from the UP and community voluntary labour, six concrete pillars were constructed on the river. A temporary bamboo and wooden platform were then installed between the pillars to allow pedestrian use.

However, the lack of additional funding left the project incomplete, exposing the structure to weather damage and making it increasingly dangerous to cross.

Villagers from Polipara and Harhariapara in Phulbari upazila, as well as neighbouring areas in Nawabganj, expressed frustrations over the incomplete bridge, citing the significant impact it has on their daily lives.

They said long detours have made accessing schools, markets, and government offices more



challenging for hundreds of residents, including students and farmers, leading to reduced efficiency and financial strain.

Farmers from the affected villages also face increased transportation costs when bringing their produce to markets in Madhiahat and Khayerbari Hat, cutting into their profits.

Shamshe Ali, a resident of Harhariapara village, said, "Vehicles can't pass through the bridge, and it's only a matter of time before it collapses."

Abdul Aziz Master said approximately Tk 15 lakh had already been spent on constructing the pillars and estimated that an

additional Tk 10 lakh would be needed to complete the bridge.

He said despite repeated attempts to secure funding from the upazila parishad, political indifference has hindered progress. He also alleged that local Awami League leaders were unwilling to support the project as they would not receive political credit for it.

Contacted, Upazila Engineer Shafiqul Islam said he will visit the site soon to witness the situation firsthand.

Upazila Nirbahi Officer Mir Md Al Kamah Tamal said appropriate measures will be taken to alleviate the villagers' suffering.

Insufficient funding halted the project. Authorities promise to address the issue, while villagers face increased travel costs and challenges.

JUDGES' APPOINTMENT Ordinance flawed, discriminatory Says SCBA president

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The recently formulated Supreme Court Judge Appointment Ordinance is flawed and discriminatory, said SCBA President AM Mahbub Uddin Khokon yesterday.

"There is no provision in the law for keeping representative from lawyers in the Supreme Judicial Appointment Council, who will select candidates for the posts of Supreme Court judges and recommend them to the president. The law is defective and discriminatory. I demand amendment of the law," he said while talking to reporters at the SC premises.

The interim government has issued an ordinance for recruitment of competent judges in the two SC divisions through a seven-member Supreme Judicial Appointment Council led by the chief justice.

Even though the constitution mandates formulating a law for appointments of judges, none of the previous governments did it.

Toddler dies in freak accident

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A three and a half-year old girl was killed after she got entangled in the blades of a paddy-threshing machine yesterday at her house in Dinajpur's Birganj upazila afternoon.

The deceased is Jannatul, daughter of Md Ziaurul Islam.

The incident happened around 3:00pm in the courtyard of her home.

According to locals, the family was using a thresher in their courtyard. Jannatul wandered out of the house and became entangled in the machine's blades and sustained severe injuries.

She died on the way to a hospital.

Officer-in-Charge of Birganj Police Station Md Abdul Gafur said they are looking into the incident.

Ex-whip Iqbalur among 692 AL men sued

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Former Jatiya Sangsad whip Iqbalur Rahim, also former Awami League lawmaker from Dinajpur-3, and 691 other AL men have been sued for allegedly attacking a procession brought out by BNP men in the district on July 21 last year.

Local BNP leader Mostafa Mahmud Rinku, a resident of Balubari in Dinajpur, filed the case against the named 192 AL leaders and activists and some 500 unidentified people yesterday, said Motiur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Dinajpur Sadar Kotwali Police Station.

According to the case statement, on July 21, 2024, leaders and activists of AL and its affiliated organisations attacked BNP supporters near the main gate of Hajee Mohammad Danesh Science and Technology University (HSTU) when they brought out a protest procession.

Former AL MP Iqbalur instructed them to carry out the attack, Rinku said in the case.

The attackers used firearms, rods, sticks, machetes, petrol bombs, and crude bombs to carry out the attack. They also allegedly vandalised the vehicles carrying them.

Centre for Advanced Research in Sciences (CARS) University of Dhaka, Dhaka-1000. Invitation for Tender (National) Date : ০৯-৩০-১৪৩১ বঙ্গাব্দ 21-01-2025 খ্রিস্টাব্দ				
SL No.	Name of supply	Last date of sale of Tender Documents	Last date of Submission of Tender Documents	Date & time of Opening of Tender Documents
01	Tender Ref. No. CARS/ST/P-374/OTM/2025 Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Equipment for Genomics and Proteomics Core Facility at the CARS	17-02-2025 Up to Office Hour	18-02-2025 Up to 10.30 am	18-02-2025 11:00 am
Place where detailed information will be found www.cars.du.ac.bd Or Notice board at the CARS University of Dhaka				

GD-260

 বাংলা একাডেমি অমর একুশে বইমেলা ২০২৫ শিশু-কিশোর চিকিৎসন, আবৃত্তি এবং সংগীত প্রতিযোগিতা	
অমর একুশে বইমেলা ২০২৫ উপলক্ষ্যে বাংলা একাডেমি শিশু-কিশোর চিকিৎসন, আবৃত্তি এবং সংগীত প্রতিযোগিতার আয়োজন করেছে। এবার বইমেলার প্রতিপাদন ভুগ্লাই গণঅভ্যর্থন: নতুন বাংলাদেশ বিনোদন। প্রতিযোগিতা তিনটি শাখায় (ক, খ ও গ) অনুষ্ঠিত হবে।	

প্রতিযোগীর বয়স
 ক শাখা: সর্বোচ্চ ৮ বছর।
 খ শাখা: সর্বোচ্চ ১২ বছর।
 গ শাখা: সর্বোচ্চ ১৫ বছর।

উক্ত তিনটি শাখার প্রতিযোগিতায় অংশগ্রহণে ইচ্ছুক শিশু-কিশোর বা তাদের অভিভাবকদের আগমনী ২৮শে জানুয়ারি থেকে ৬ই ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০২৫ পর্যন্ত (ক্রম ও শনিবার বাদে) প্রতিপাদন সকাল ১১:০০টা থেকে বিকাল ৪:০০টার মধ্যে বাংলা একাডেমির ডেস্ট্রেন্স মুহূর্ম শহীদস্থান ভবনের নিচতলার অভ্যর্থনা কক্ষ থেকে আবেদনপত্র সংগ্রহ করে নাম তালিকাভুক্ত করতে হবে এবং জন্ম সনদ জমা দিতে হবে।

যোগাযোগ
 চিকিৎসন প্রতিযোগিতা: ০১৯২১৯৫৭১৩০
 আবৃত্তি প্রতিযোগিতা: ০১৭১০৮০৯১৩০
 সংগীত প্রতিযোগিতা: ০১৭২৩৪৩২৯৩৫

❖ চিকিৎসন প্রতিযোগিতা ৭ই ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০২৫ শক্রবার সকাল ৮:৩০ টায়, আবৃত্তি প্রতিযোগিতা (প্রাথমিক বাছাই) ৭ই ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০২৫ শক্রবার সকাল ৯:৩০টায় এবং সংগীত প্রতিযোগিতা (প্রাথমিক বাছাই) ৮ই ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০২৫ শনিবার সকাল ৯:৩০টায় অনুষ্ঠিত হবে।

❖ প্রতিটি শাখার প্রথম তিনজন বিজয়ীকে পুরস্কার এবং অংশগ্রহণকারী সকাল প্রতিযোগীকে স্মারক উপহার প্রদান করা হবে।

ড. সরকার আমিন
সদস্য-সচিব

অমর একুশে বইমেলা পরিচালনা কর্মসূচি ২০২৫

8 years on, bridge remains incomplete

Photo: Md. Monowar Hossain

Man held over rape of 7-year-old boy

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

Police yesterday arrested a man in Gazipur's Kapasia upazila on the charge of raping a seven-year-old boy. The arrestee is Joy Chandra Das, 23, a Nasimon driver.

The child's father filed the case with Kapasia Police Station, said Sub Inspector Moslem Uddin.

The child was initially taken to Kapasia Upazila Health Complex and later referred to Gazipur Shaheed Tajuddin Ahmad Medical College Hospital for better treatment, said Mamunur Rahman, health and family planning officer of Kapasia Upazila Health Complex.

Quoting the child's father, the SI said the victim was playing near his home when the accused took the child to a nearby area under the pretext of showing him a bird's nest and raped him. Hearing his scream, locals later rescued him.

2 held for hoarding OMS rice

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bagerhat

Authorities on Wednesday night seized 600 sacks of government subsidised rice from a warehouse named "Majumdar Bhandar" in Karamat Ali Market. In a joint operation by Fakirhat police and the Food Department, they also arrested two persons involved in its illegal storage and intended sale.

The arrestees are Ashatit Majumdar, 21, a co-owner of the warehouse, and an employee, Abdur Rasul, 45.

Each sack contained 30 kilogrammes of rice, as part of the Open Market Sale (OMS) programme, and the total amount seized was worth Tk 9.34 lakh, said Fakirhat Model Police Station's Officer-in-Charge Alomgir Kabir.

He said the two were arrested for embezzling government-subsidised rice and planning to deceive consumers.

A case has been filed against them.

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MECHANICAL ENGINEER (East)
BANGLADESH RAILWAY, CHATTOGRAM.

Invitation No: 54.01.1500.110.07.073.25

Dated: 22-01-2025

e-Tender Notice (OTM)

SL No	Tender ID No	Tender Ref. No	Name of the works	Tender Publication Date & Time	Tender Closing & Opening Date & Time
1	1054106	WR2/OTM-cleaning/24-25	Cleaning, washing, servicing & fumigation of passenger carriages and supply of mobile cleaners in intercity trains at dhaka carriage depot under DME/C&W/Dhaka.	23-Jan-2025 10:00 am	13-Feb-2025 02:30 pm

This is an online tender where only e-tender will be accepted in 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. The fees for Tender/Proposal document 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).

এস(২৫)(২৯৯)

২২-০১-২০২৫
 (Kazi Md. Salim)
 Chief Mechanical Engineer (East)
 Bangladesh Railway, CRB, Chattogram.
 e-mail: cme@railway.gov.bd

GD-268