



Despite a Tk 7.16 crore project, the canal remains clogged as locals cite mismanagement and irregularities, while authorities defend their efforts. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

One more dead in N'ganj gas explosion Death toll now four

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Narayanganj

The death toll in the gas explosion incident in Siddhiganj of Narayanganj rose to four yesterday, after another victim succumbed to the injuries.

Dr Shawon Bin Rahman, a resident surgeon at the National Institute of Burn and Plastic Surgery, confirmed that Sohag, 23, a garment worker, who had suffered 40 percent burns, died while undergoing treatment in the hospital's intensive care unit around 1:30am yesterday.

With him, all three members of his family, including his wife Rupali, and daughter Sumaiya, have died.

The family lived in the rented house in Dhankunda area of Siddhiganj where the explosion occurred on March 3 from gas leakage.

Another victim, Md Hannan, 40, a rickshaw puller who suffered 45 percent burns, earlier died on Saturday.

Hannan's wife, Nurjahan Akter Laki, 30, and their children - Jannat, 3; Samiya, 9; and Sabbir, 16 - are still undergoing treatment at the burn institute.

GORER KHAL IN BANIACHONG UPAZILA Flawed excavation project puts canal on deathbed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Gorer Khal, a 19.2-kilometre-long canal crisscrossing across Baniachong upazila of Habiganj, used to be a vital lifeline for the region's agriculture, communication and flood management.

However, it has long been on death bed due to illegal encroachment, pollution and siltation.

To revive this vital waterway, the Bangladesh Water Development Board launched an initiative to excavate across 31.6km of the canal and its branches at a cost of Tk 7.16 crore in 2022-23 fiscal year.

Around a year and half later, the canal's situation hardly improved, while the authorities concerned claimed they did as far as they could regarding the excavation project.

Local residents alleged the project has been implemented amid irregularities and misappropriation of funds, due to which the expected outcome could not be achieved.

"When the canal's excavation began, we had high hopes that the initiative will improve irrigation and navigation. Now, it's clear that the project was just a cover for looting public money. Not even half of the canal has been excavated, and the work that has been done was unplanned and ineffective," said Ataur Rahman Milon, a trader at Baniachong Bazar.

"The authorities engaged in corruption and mismanagement to misappropriate the funds while poorly

executing the project," alleged Shipon Mia, a local resident.

Azizur Rahman from Sheikhher Mohalla said instead of excavating the main canal, the project largely focused on digging the canal's branches, which was often unnecessary.

"Also, the excavation was conducted without defining the canal's location and evicting the encroachments," he added.

Fazal Mia, another local, said the soil dug from the canal was piled up along the banks, and was washed into the canal again after rains during monsoon.

"Hardly anything changed about the canal's condition. The excavation work did not cover even half of the canal's length. Some portions of the canal have completely disappeared due to illegal land grabbers encroaching on it," he added.

According to the project's plan, a total of 4,000 trees were supposed to be planted along the canal's banks, but local said no trees were planted yet.

Shamim Hasnain Mahmud, executive engineer of BWDB in Habiganj, however, claimed it was not possible to excavate the entire canal due to various obstacles.

"About 70 percent of the canal has been excavated. We have done as far as we could. However, due to the poor quality of work, only 54 percent of the contractor's bill has been paid," he said.

"Since this is a nationwide river-canal excavation project, the remaining fund may have been allocated to other districts," the official added.

INT'L CRIMES TRIBUNAL Complaint filed against Sheikh Helal, 5 others

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A complaint was filed with the International Crimes Tribunal yesterday accusing former Awami League lawmaker Sheikh Helal Uddin and five others of shooting at protesters during July Uprising in Khulna.

Nayeem Shikder, a student shot and wounded in police firing on August 4, lodged the complaint with the ICT chief prosecutor's office.

The other accused are former Khulna City Corporation mayor Talukder Abdul Khaleque, his wife and also former AL MP Habibun Nahar, Sheikh Helal's son and former AL MP Sheikh Tommoy, and Helal's brothers Sheikh Salahuddin Jewel and Sheikh Sohel.

"We came to know that some protesters were detained at the then-mayor Talukder Abdul Khaleque's house. As we went there to rescue them on August 4 afternoon, armed Jubo League and BCL men, as well as some 25-30 policemen, fired at us indiscriminately upon instruction of the accused," Nayem said in the complaint.

"I was hit by a bullet and hundreds of lead pellets. I collapsed while bleeding profusely before fellow students rescued me and took me to three private hospitals, where the doctors denied me treatment," he also said.

"Requested, a doctor later treated me on the road to stop the bleeding. Later, I was taken to Khulna 250-bed hospital, where the doctors once again refused to treat me. A doctor, upon request, removed the bullet without using anaesthesia and dressing the wound," Nayem added.

Meanwhile, the ICT yesterday issued arrest warrants against 10 persons, including policemen and AL leaders, in connection with the killing of Shaikh Ashabul Yamin, a student of Military Institute of Science and Technology, in Savar on July 18.

The ICT, led by Justice Md Golam Mortuza Mozumder, passed the order after the prosecution filed a petition yesterday in this regard.

TK 1,128CR GRAFT ACC to sue Lotus Kamal, 31 others

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

ACC has decided to file cases against 32 individuals, including wife and daughter of former finance minister AHM Mustafa Kamal, known as Lotus Kamal, and owners of 12 recruiting agencies, for embezzling and laundering Tk 1,128 crore through a syndicate that overcharged Malaysia-bound workers.

Confirming this development yesterday, ACC Director General (Prevention) Akhtar Hossain said the accused charged workers nearly five times the government-set rate of Tk 78,990, collecting exorbitant sums from 67,380 individuals.

The ACC approved the cases yesterday, with owners and top officials of 12 recruiting agencies being named as defendants.

The ACC claims the syndicate includes former MPs Nizam Uddin Hazari (Feni 2), Masud Uddin Chowdhury (Feni-3), and Benazir Ahmed (Dhaka-20), along with AHM Mustafa Kamal.

One such agency, M/s Orbital Enterprise, allegedly took an additional Tk 100.98 crore from 6,029 workers. The company is owned by Kamal's wife, Kashmira Kamal, also named in the case.

Retired teacher, son assaulted over land

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pirojpur

A retired school teacher and his son have been injured in an attack by a neighbour over a land dispute in Moishani village of Pirojpur's Nesarabad upazila.

The incident occurred on Saturday afternoon when Nani Gopal Sarkar, 85, and his son Shambhu Sarkar, 45, were beaten up and left injured allegedly by their neighbour Gazi Manir Ferdous Nayon alias Nayan Gazi, 50.

The victims are now undergoing treatment at Barishal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Institute of Public Health
Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212.

Website: www.ipb.gov.bd, e-Mail: ipb@id.dgbs.gov.bd



Date: 10/03/2025.

e-Tender Notice

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, please registration on the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>), For more details, please contact support desk contract numbers.

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) by Dr. Md. Mominur Rahman, Director, Institute of Public Health (IPH), Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212 for the Procurement of:

Tender ID No	Description of Work	Tender/Proposal Last Selling (Date & Time)	Tender/Proposal closing (Date & Time)
1075525	Procurement of Machineries of ORS for the F.Y. 2024-25	24-03-2025 at 15.30 hours	25-03-2025 at 13.00 hours
1085048	Procurement of Furniture for the F.Y. 2024-25	24-03-2025 at 15.30 hours	25-03-2025 at 13.30 hours

e-Tender details can be downloaded on e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for pursuer. e-Tender will be accepted only as stated in above list; accepted tender will be opened online immediate as stated in above list.

10/03/25
(Dr. Md. Mominur Rahman)
Director
Institute of Public Health
Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212.

The people's Republic of Bangladesh

National board of Revenue

Bangladesh Regional Connectivity project 1:
National Single Window Implementation and strengthening Customs Modernization
IDEB Bhaban (10th floor), 160/A, Kakrail, Dhaka

Memo no. 1(192) Active items/ Hardware /NSW/2024/2648

Date: 11.03.2025

Subject: Addendum to bidding document for supply and Installation of Hardware and Infrastructure (network, communication, cabling etc.) and standard software for NSW solution; other network, communication equipment, structure, Hardware and cabling: Server & Storage and Network & Security components for NSW Server Room & DR. Bangladesh Regional Connectivity project 1: Request for Bids (RFB) No. NBR-GD2A.1.

Addendum No. 9

This is for the information of all Bidders concerned that the following amendments have been made for the procurement mentioned in the subject above;

Ref	Existing Entry	Amended entry
SI No. of 6, SPN ITP-23.1 & 26.1	The deadline for Bid Submission is: Date: March 13, 2025, Time: 14.00 hours. Date & Time for Bid Opening March 13, 2025, Time :14:30 hours	The deadline for Bid Submission is: Date: April 21, 2025, Time: 14.00 hours. Date & Time for Bid Opening April 21, 2025, Time :14:30 hours

All the terms and conditions of bidding Documents (RFB) NBR-GD2A.1 shall remain unchanged. This Addendum No.9 shall be considered an integral part of the Bidding Documents and shall be binding on all Bidders who have obtained or will obtain the Bidding Documents from the Purchaser.

(Pramila Sarker)

Deputy Project Director

Bangladesh Regional Connectivity project 1:

National Single Window Implementation and strengthening Customs Modernization

Email: pdnsw.nbr@gmail.com



পরিদ্বন্দু-উল-ফিফ্র/২০২৫ উপলক্ষ্যে বাংলাদেশ রেলওয়ে নিম্নোক্ত সময়সূচী অনুযায়ী টিকিট বিক্রয়ের ব্যবস্থা এবং করেছেঁ

ঈদ যাত্রার অগ্রিম টিকিট বিক্রয়ের সময়সূচীঃ

ক্রমিক নং	টিকিট ইস্যুর তারিখ	যাত্রার তারিখ
১.	১৪/০৩/২০২৫	২৪/০৩/২০২৫
২.	১৫/০৩/২০২৫	২৫/০৩/২০২৫
৩.	১৬/০৩/২০২৫	২৬/০৩/২০২৫
৪.	১৭/০৩/২০২৫	২৭/০৩/২০২৫
৫.	১৮/০৩/২০২৫	২৮/০৩/২০২৫
৬.	১৯/০৩/২০২৫	২৯/০৩/২০২৫
৭.	২০/০৩/২০২৫	৩০/০৩/২০২৫

ঈদ ফেরত যাত্রার অগ্রিম টিকিট বিক্রয়ের সময়সূচীঃ

ক্রমিক নং	টিকিট ইস্যুর তারিখ	যাত্রার তারিখ
১.	২৪/০৩/২০২৫	০৩/০৪/২০২৫
২.	২৫/০৩/২০২৫	০৪/০৪/২০২৫
৩.	২৬/০৩/২০২৫	০৫/০৪/২০২৫
৪.	২৭/	