

Burglaries at Khulna bank, Patuakhali ATM booth

STAR REPORT

Miscreants have stolen around Tk 16 lakh after breaking into the locker of a Krishi Bank branch in Rupsha upazila of Khulna, said police.

The burglary is believed to have occurred sometime between Thursday afternoon and 10:00pm on Friday.

Around 10:00pm Friday, a security guard noticed the padlock on the main entrance's collapsible gate was broken. He alerted locals, who then informed police.

Rupsha Police Station Officer-in-Charge Md Mahfuzur Rahman told The Daily Star, "We have collected CCTV footage and a detailed analysis is underway."

He added that no guards were on duty at the bank that night. "Our initial findings suggest the theft was possible due to lapses in the bank's security measures," he said.

Bank officials could not be reached for comment.

Meanwhile, in Patuakhali town, a

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A man cautiously walks along a footpath in Rajshahi city, where multiple uncovered manholes pose a serious hazard. The theft of manhole covers from drains along footpaths has worsened the risk. While red flags mark some of the open drains, many footpaths in the city remain dangerous for pedestrians. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: AZAHAR UDDIN

RU students still face poor food, housing woes

Merit-based seat allocation shows progress



NUR AHSAN MRIDUL

Following the July uprising, Rajshahi University (RU) authorities had promised sweeping reforms in hall management, particularly in dining services and seat allocation.

However, many students feel that little has changed since then. They said while some transparency has been introduced in hall seat allocation, food quality remains poor, and the persistent accommodation crisis continues to frustrate thousands.

A chronic shortage of seats

RU has around 32,000 students but its 17 residential halls can house only about 10,000. This means nearly two-thirds of the students live outside campus. Since the uprising, no new dormitory projects have

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Three workers electrocuted to death in Dhaka

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three people working at a construction site were electrocuted to death in the capital's Bashundhara Residential Area yesterday afternoon.

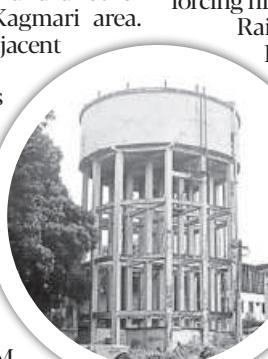
The deceased were identified as Faridul Islam, 40, of Alauddin Bazar area of Lalmonirhat's Patgram upazila, Rabbi, 17, son of Iobarai Hossain of Islam Nagar village of the upazila, and Liton, 35, of Jamgram village, said police.

The incident happened on Road 14 of Bashundhara's E Block around 12:30pm.

Citing locals, Vatara Police Station Officer-in-Charge Rakibul Hasan said four workers were inside an underground water tank at an under-construction building in the area when they were electrocuted.

The three died on the spot while one suffered burns, said OC Rakibul.

The official said they suspect faulty wiring may have led to the accident.



Half the municipality lacks supply lines; project planned for new pipelines, treatment plants

MIRZA SHAKIL, Tangail

Tangail municipality does not have adequate water supply lines compared to the demand of its customers, leaving a large number of residents deprived of civic amenities.

The municipality currently has three elevated reservoirs and four treatment plants. Of these, a high reservoir and two treatment plants are in the College Para area, a high reservoir in the Bagan Bari area, a high reservoir and a treatment plant in the Sabalia area, and another treatment plant in the Kaghori area. There is also a water tank adjacent to the Zila Sadar field.

Out of the municipality's 18 wards, wards 2, 4, 8, 9 and 10 have no water supply lines. Partial areas of wards 1, 3, 5, 7, 12, 15 and 17 are covered, while wards 6, 11, 13, 14, 16 and 18 have supply lines but with very low water pressure.

According to AHM Jahangir Alam Khan, assistant engineer of the city's water supply department, the number of registered customer connections is 8,176, but only 4,500 are operational.

The monthly bill is Tk 250 for a 0.5-inch diameter connection, Tk 600 for 0.75-inch, Tk 1,600 for 1-inch, Tk 3,600 for 1.5-inch and Tk 7,200 for 2-inch connections, he said.

The water supply centre has 17 permanent employees and 33 daily-basis workers. A demand and collection report for June shows that the daily demand for water is 25 million litres, while the daily supply stands at 9.3 million litres, leaving

a shortage of 15.7 million litres.

"To supply water according to demand, high reservoirs and treatment plants will have to be increased," he said.

Residents complain that the crisis has left them in severe difficulty.

Raham Ali of West Akur Takur Para in Ward 3 said he has had no water from his supply line for over a year, yet bills continue to arrive.

Md Rubel Miah of Purba Adalat Para said water does not flow properly, and what little comes is dirty and smelly, forcing him to shut off the connection.

Raihan Miah of Akur Takur Para said installing deep tube wells is too expensive for most families. "We are interested in taking supply water as the water from deep tube wells is purified in the high reservoir of the municipality and then supplied, but there is not enough supply from the municipality," he said.

Contacted, Municipality Administrator Md Shihab Raihan said, "After taking charge here, I realised that despite the demand for water in various areas, there is no water supply system from the municipality."

"To this end, I have contacted the higher authorities of the government and the Inclusive Sanitation Project. A project will start by the end of this year. It will build 20 kilometres of water pipelines in Tangail town and four more water treatment plants. I hope that when this project is fully implemented, the town residents will no longer have this water problem," he added.



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Water gone, wounds

FROM PAGE 3

improved, with water flowing below the danger mark since yesterday. However, erosion may occur as waters recede," said Shunil Kumar, executive engineer of the board in Lalmonirhat.

For many farmers, however, recovery seems uncertain.

"One of my goats and several ducks and chickens were washed away. I am now struggling to feed three cows and six goats, as all the grass in nearby fields has died," said Soleman Ali, 60, of Char Ichli village in Rangpur's Gangachara upazila.

In Lalmonirhat's Hatibandha upazila, 65-year-old Sukchan Bewa said her house was left in ruins.

The mixed picture was echoed by others also.

In Nageshwar upazila of Kurigram, farmer Mahesh Chandra Das said, "Six bighas of Aman remained under water for three days but survived. Half of my vegetables were destroyed. Still, the silt deposition will ensure a good yield this year." While the waters may have gone, the struggle for recovery in northern districts has only just begun.

Others pointed to mixed impacts on cropland.

Abdar Ali, 65, of Gangachara upazila, said five bighas of Aman paddy survived but his vegetable

fields were destroyed.

"Floodwaters have receded from my homestead, but surrounding fields are still submerged, leaving no fodder for livestock," he added.

Farmers in Lalmonirhat's Aditmari and Sadar upazilas also reported both losses and gains.

While sand rendered some land infertile, new silt layers were seen as a blessing for future harvests. "Out of my nine bighas, one is buried under sand, but four have new silt deposits that will give bumper crops. Without floods, silt never comes to our riverbank lands," said Mobarok Ali, 68, from Gobardhan village.

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The fence and door of my house were swept away, and a pit has formed in my yard. I don't have the money to repair my home. Even though the floodwater is gone, my suffering hasn't ended," she said.

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Ref No. DHS/DSL/2025-26/2673

Date: 14/08/2025

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Tender Id	Name of goods	Tender/proposal publication date & time	Tender/proposal last selling date & time	Tender/proposal closing/opening date & time
1136639	Procurement of Other Stationary for the F.Y 2025-2026 at 250 Bedded District Sadar Hospital, Sherpur.	17-Aug-2025 12:00	31-Aug-2025 16:00	01-Sep-2025 12:00
1136640	Procurement of Cleaning & Others (Laundry Items) for the F.Y 2025-2026 at 250 Bedded District Sadar Hospital, Sherpur.	17-Aug-2025 12:00	31-Aug-2025 16:00	01-Sep-2025 12:00
1136641	Procurement of Diet for the F.Y 2025-2026 at 250 Bedded District Sadar Hospital, Sherpur.	17-Aug-2025 12:00	31-Aug-2025 16:00	01-Sep-2025 12:00

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e-Tender will be accepted only as stated in above list; accepted tenders will be opened online

immediate as stated in above list.

Dr. Md. Selim Miah

Superintendent
250 Bedded District Sadar Hospital
Sherpur



CHUNARUGHAT IN HABIGANJ Illegal sand lifting threatens Deochara bridge

MINTU DESHWARA, Moulvibazar

Unregulated and illegal sand extraction beneath the Deochara Bridge in Chunarughat upazila of Habiganj has put the vital infrastructure at serious risk, raising fears among locals that a collapse may be imminent.

The bridge, located in Daragaon village under Satiaburi Union, serves as a key link on the Sribari road, a major route for transporting agricultural produce.

Residents allege that a group of local sand traders has been using dredger machines under the cover of darkness to extract sand directly beneath the bridge without any official permission.

Despite several drives by the administration, the illegal activity continues. A deep cavity has already formed beside the bridge due to relentless dredging, weakening its foundation.

Locals said the bridge visibly shakes when water flows beneath it, and the surface has begun to sink.

"If this continues, the bridge might collapse any time," said Noor Uddin Sumon, a journalist in the area.

He said that unless the illegal dredging is halted and those responsible are held accountable, the bridge and the surrounding road network could face irreversible damage.

According to the law, no sand can be extracted within one kilometre on either side of the bridge. But the lessees have violated this condition, lifting sand with dredgers one after another and storing it at the wharf. Overloaded trucks are also transporting sand from the area every day, causing damage to roads and the embankment, he added.

UP Chairman Abdulur Rahman said, "Despite multiple warnings, these illegal miners are not stopping. We urge the administration to take stronger action."

Locals named three individuals -- Rahmat Ali, Raham Ali and Rustam Ali -- as ringleaders of the sand-extraction syndicate. "I am not involved in sand mining. Some people are using my name to tarnish my reputation," said Rahmat Ali.

Raham and Rustam also denied the allegations.

Chunarughat UNO Mohammad Robin Mia said the administration is actively conducting drives to halt illegal sand extraction.

Sakhawat Hossain passes away

CITY DESK

Sakhawat Hossain, a former marine and mechanical engineer, former engineering manager at ICI Bangladesh Limited, and chief engineer at BIWT, died on Thursday. He was 87, said a press release.

He left behind his wife, a son, a daughter, and four grandchildren to mourn his death.

His namaz-e-janaza will be held today after the Zohr prayers at Gulshan Azad Mosque in Dhaka, and he will be buried at Mirpur Kalshi graveyard.

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