

FARIDPUR SADAR UPAZILA Four months of waterlogging misery in Pal Para

SUZID DAS, Faridpur

For the past seven years, residents of Pal Para in Deora village under Faridpur Sadar upazila have been suffering from severe waterlogging that lasts from July to October every year, leaving 39 families in perpetual distress.

Located six kilometres south of Faridpur town, on the western side of the Dhaka-Barishal highway in ward-27 of Faridpur municipality, the neighbourhood is home to over 300 people, including children, women, and the elderly, who struggle with stagnant rainwater that inundates their courtyards and homes for months.

Despite repeated appeals to the municipality, no permanent solution has been implemented. Most recently, on August 6, residents submitted a petition to the municipal administrator demanding immediate measures for water drainage.



During a recent visit to the area, this correspondent found homes submerged in ankle-deep water, with bricks and wooden planks laid out across courtyards to move from one house to another. Many households' tube wells were partially underwater, creating an acute shortage of safe drinking water. Families are forced to collect water from higher grounds or buy purified water.

Traditionally, the Pal community here makes a living from pottery, but due to waterlogging, work has been at a standstill. Others employed in sweet-making or as goldsmiths are also facing hardship.

Gopal Chandra Paul, 77, said, "Almost every household here has been suffering from waterlogging for the last seven years. Earlier, the water used to drain out through land near Dhirajuddin's house to the west, but that area has been filled with sand. Now the water has no way to escape."

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Artisans busy making bamboo fish traps, particularly popular during the rainy season. These handmade traps are usually sold in weekly markets and are used to catch a variety of fish when rivers, canals, and wetlands overflow during the monsoon. Each trap sells for Tk 250-300 depending on size and quality. The photo was taken at Sheikhpura Bazar in Khulna's Terokhada upazila yesterday.

PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

Patients suffer as hospital building work drags on

SUSHANTA GHOSH, Barishal

Despite being more than a century old, the main building of Barishal General Hospital has remained incomplete for four years, forcing patients to receive treatment in cramped tin-shed rooms.

Due to the lack of adequate space, healthcare services are being severely disrupted, hospital authorities said.

Established in 1912 as Sadar Hospital through a citizens' initiative, the facility is considered the first hospital in the southern



region. Until the establishment of Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital in 1968, it was the prime healthcare hub for the south.

Though Sher-e-Bangla remains the central medical facility today, Barishal General Hospital, being

located in the heart of the city, continues to provide vital services, especially for diarrhoea treatment and outdoor patients, locals said.

The hospital originally had three old buildings. One was demolished to make way for a new 10-storey structure. However, as construction drags on, authorities are struggling with a severe space crisis, leaving patients in unhygienic tin-shed wards.

Hospital officials said the facility was once a 20-bed hospital, upgraded to 100 beds in the 1990s -

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Frobel Academy, a STEM-accredited Cambridge Associate inclusive school, hosted University Fair 2025 at its Ananya Residential Area campus in Chattogram yesterday, bringing together seven leading universities from Chattogram and Dhaka and 14 education consultancy firms to offer students insights into local and international academic pathways.

PHOTO: COURTESY

Case filed over four deaths in Cumilla accident

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cumilla

A case has been filed against the drivers of a Hanif Paribahan bus and a cement-laden lorry over the deaths of four members of a family in a road accident at Paduar Bazar in Cumilla.

The case was lodged by Abul Kalam, brother of victim Mohammad Omar Ali, with Cumilla Sadar South Police Station on Friday night, said Sub-Inspector Md Anisur Rahman of Mainamati Highway Crossing Police Station.

Following the accident, authorities have decided to close the U-turn in front of Paduar Bazar Palli Bidyut Samiti based on a joint recommendation from the army, highway police, and the Roads and Highways Department (RHD).

Until further notice, vehicles are instructed to use the Doyapur U-turn in Sadar South upazila.

Adnan Bin Hasan, sub-divisional engineer of the RHD, Cumilla, said, "On Sunday [today], a coordination meeting on road and communication issues will be held at the Deputy Commissioner's office, where a final decision will be made. For now, this U-turn will remain closed."

Four members of a family were killed on Friday when a container-laden lorry overturned onto their private car on the Dhaka-Chattogram highway in Cumilla's Paduar Bazar Bishwa Road area.

A Hanif Paribahan bus was seen coming from the wrong side of the road in the CCTV footage, Adnan said.

Autopsy of Bibhuranjan Regional growth key to easing

FROM PAGE 3

Bibhuranjan's younger brother, Chiroranjan Sarker, told The Daily Star, "We will wait for the final postmortem report. After completing all formalities here, we will take the body to Dhaka. It will first be kept at his Siddheshwari residence for some time and then cremated at Borodeshwari Kali Temple in Sabujbagh."

Asked about legal action, he said, "We have not yet made any decision. We will sit with all family members before deciding the next step."

Inspector Mohammad Saleh Ahmed Pathan of Kolagachia Naval Police Outpost said the body

would now be handed over to the family. "After that, further legal measures will be discussed with them".

Bibhuranjan had left his Siddheshwari residence in Dhaka on Thursday morning. His body was recovered from the Meghna River the following day, around 3:45pm, at Balakir Char in Gazaria upazila of Munshiganj.

The 71-year-old journalist was serving as senior assistant editor at the daily Ajker Patrika. He went missing around 10:00am on Thursday after leaving his residence, and his family filed a general diary (GD) with Ramna Police Station later that night.

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safety measures, such as ensuring functional Central Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) and replacing old buses.

"Without concerted efforts, we cannot improve Dhaka's air quality," she warned.

Md Reazul Islam, chairman of Rajuk, said building a sustainable Dhaka is impossible without sustainable national development.

He called for an integrated development authority to oversee all urban development projects under a single framework for accountability.

In his keynote presentation, architect Iqbal Habib, founder partner of Vitti Sthapati Brindo Ltd, highlighted that 32 percent of

Bangladesh's urban population lives in Dhaka, but the city faces serious challenges including lack of greenery, heat stress, flooding, and waste mismanagement.

He recommended empowering the River Commission, ensuring balanced urbanisation, and completing proposed ring roads around Dhaka as key decentralisation measures.

He also noted that over-centralisation has contributed to problems such as flooding, waterlogging, poor waste management, urban pollution, and public health crises.

He further stressed the need for improved rural livelihoods to promote Dhaka's decentralisation. Adil Mohammed Khan, president of Bangladesh Institute of Planners, called

for extending Dhaka's development initiatives beyond the metropolitan area.

Md Shamsul Hoque, professor of civil engineering at Buet, criticised excessive focus on mega projects rather than effective public transport solutions.

Speakers also emphasised the urgent need for structural reforms, planned satellite cities, improved public transport, and rural development to reduce the influx of people to the capital.

Md Ashraf Islam, chief town planner of Rajuk; Md Zahirul Islam, director of the Department of Environment (DoE); Liakat Ali Bhuiyan, senior vice president of the Real Estate and Housing Association of Bangladesh (REHAB); M Abu Horaira, former vice president of DCCI; Dilbahar Ahmed, geographer and urban planner at DNCC; and Kazi Golam Nasir, former chief architect of the Department of Architecture at the Ministry of Housing and Public Affairs, also spoke at the event.

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TENDER NOTICE

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Sub-Office in Cox's Bazar hereby announces the launch of the following tender:

TENDER REFERENCE NUMBER	ITEM DESCRIPTION
BGD-UNHCR RFP 1649	FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FRAME AGREEMENT FOR THE PROVISION OF CUSTOMS CLEARANCE AND FREIGHT FORWARDING/TRANSPORTATION SERVICES FOR UNHCR OPERATIONS IN BANGLADESH

Interested and bona fide vendors are invited to participate in this Request for Proposal (RFP) by accessing and downloading the tender documents from [UNHCR Cloud ERP Supplier Portal](#).

UNGM Notice Link: <https://www.ungm.org/Public/Notice/276011>

ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

Please confirm your participation for **BGD-UNHCR RFP 1649** by using the "Acknowledge Participation" functionality in **Cloud ERP Supplier portal**. Please indicate whether:

- You are interested in participating in this RFP, or
- You are not interested in participating.

Sending your confirmation above will enable to receive automatic email notifications from UNHCR with information on any changes related to this negotiation.

Pre-bid conference:
UNHCR will organize an online supplier pre-bid conference on **31/08/2025 at 10:00 hrs BST via Microsoft teams**. Name, organization name, email address and phone numbers of the company's representatives must be provided during Pre-Bid session.

For Meeting link please visit: <https://hotjobs.bdjobs.com/jobs/unhcr/unhcr534.htm>

Instruction to Bidders:
To register as a potential supplier, please refer to link as follows: <https://www.unhcr.org/media/guidelines-unhcr-suppliers-how-use-supplier-portal>

Existing suppliers use this link: <https://supplier-portal.unhcr.org/> to Log in with your email address and Password. Do not create a new profile if you already registered. Kindly Use the forgotten password feature in case you do not know/remember your password or username from previous registration.

Bid submission deadline: Sunday, 21 September 2025 - 23:59 hrs. Bangladesh time.

Kindly note that no hard copy is acceptable. The offer to be submitted only through Cloud ERP portal.

সেনা ক্রীড়া নিয়ন্ত্রণ বোর্ড (এএসসিবি), সেনাসদর
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ক্রমিক নং	বিবরণ	বিবরণ
১	দপ্তরের নাম	সেনা ক্রীড়া নিয়ন্ত্রণ বোর্ড (এএসসিবি), সেনাসদর, জেনারেল স্টাফ শাখা, সামরিক প্রশিক্ষণ পরিদপ্তর, ঢাকা সেনানিবাস।
২	কাজের নাম	ক। সেনা ক্রীড়া দপ্তর খেলোয়াড়দের জন্য খাদ্য সামগ্রী ক্রয় (সিডিউসে বিস্তারিত বর্ণনা করা হবে)।
৩	দরপত্র বিক্রয় মূল্য	প্রয়োজনীয় ন্যূনতম অর্থ প্রদানপূর্বক সিডিউসে সেনা ক্রীড়া নিয়ন্ত্রণ বোর্ড, সেনাসদর, জেনারেল স্টাফ শাখা, সামরিক প্রশিক্ষণ পরিদপ্তর এর অফিস হতে ক্রয় করা যাবে।
৪	জামানতের পরিমাণ	দরপত্র প্রদানকালে মোট টাকার ২.৫% টেন্ডার নির্যাস্তা জামানত হিসাবে বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংকের তফসিলভুক্ত যে কোন বাণিজ্যিক ব্যাংক হতে ইস্যুকৃত অধিমুদ্রিত ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/সে-অর্ডার সচিব আর্মি স্পোর্টস কম্প্লেক্স বোর্ড এর অনুমোদনক্রমে জমা করতে হবে।
৫	দরপত্র ক্রয়ের আবেদনপত্রের সঙ্গে দাখিলযোগ্য সনদপত্রাদি (তথ্যমাত্র)	ক। সিডিউসে বর্ণিত প্রবন্ধের একক মূল্য, মোট মূল্য ও নিজ প্যাকেট আধিকারিত দরপত্র প্রদান করতে হবে। (সকল মূল্য বাংলাদেশী টাকায় উল্লেখ আশ্রয়ক)। খ। হালনাগাদ নবায়নকৃত বৈধ ট্রেড লাইসেন্স এর ফটোকপি (সত্যায়িত)। গ। বৈধ টিআইএন সনদপত্র (ফর্মের হালনাগাদ ট্যাক্স প্রদানের সত্যায়িত ফটোকপি)। ঘ। প্রস্তুতকারী কর্তৃক অর্থায়নকরণ পত্র (প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে)। ঙ। করিপরী তথ্য (প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে)। চ। সরবরাহকারী কর্তৃক পাত ০২ বঙ্গবন্ধু একই ধরনের প্রব্রা সামগ্রী কোন প্রতিষ্ঠানে সরবরাহ করে থাকলে সে বিষয়ে সনদপত্র।
৬	দরপত্র বিক্রয় শুরু ও শেষ তারিখ	জাতীয় পরিকায় দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের দিন হতে ১০ সেপ্টেম্বর ২০২৫ তারিখ ১০:০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
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৯	দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ	১০ সেপ্টেম্বর ২০২৫ তারিখ ১১:০০ ঘটিকায় সকল দরপত্রের উপস্থিতিতে (যদি থাকে) দরপত্র বাস্তব খোলা হবে।
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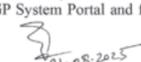
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