

## Two cousins drown in Thakurgaon pond

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

Two minors drowned in a pond in Krishnapur village of Thakurgaon Sadar upazila yesterday.

The deceased were identified as Saudia Akhter, 5, and her cousin Aysha Akhter, 5.

Quoting family members, Abdul Hannan, chairman of Rahimanpur Union Parishad, told The Daily Star, "Aysha had come to visit her maternal grandfather's house last week. After having breakfast today, the two girls were playing around the house when they went missing."

Family members found their sandals on the bank of a nearby pond and began searching. Neighbours and relatives later recovered the children from the pond in an unconscious state and rushed them to Thakurgaon General Hospital, where doctors declared them dead.

Officer-in-Charge Sarware Alam Khan of Thakurgaon Police Station confirmed the incident and said an unnatural death case has been filed.

## Forest dept recovers 10 acres of land

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

The Forest Department has reclaimed 10 acres of forest land in Sathkhamair mouza under the Barmi union in Gazipur's Sreepur upazila and brought it under afforestation.

The department yesterday planted 10,000 saplings on the recovered land under the initiative of the Sreepur Range.

"After a long legal process, the court ruled in our favour. We recovered the land and planted various species of trees there," Mokhlesur Rahman, Sreepur range officer of the Forest Department, told The Daily Star.

According to the department, local resident Sahab Uddin Molla filed a record amendment case against it in 2005, making the department the defendant. The court recently delivered a verdict in favour of the Forest Department.

Following the legal process, the land was reclaimed, and afforestation activities began.

The market value of the recovered land is around Tk 20 crore. The saplings planted include species like Chikrashi, Mahogany, Ashfal, Bahera, Sonalu, and Latkon.

Despite repeated attempts, Sahab Uddin could not be reached for comments.



Workers at the Rajshahi University of Engineering and Technology construction site carry out their tasks without any safety equipment, exposing themselves to serious risks. A minor slip or error on this multi-story building could have fatal consequences.

PHOTO: AZAHAR UDDIN

## BAU SHUTDOWN

# Many students defy vacate order, place 6-point demand

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Despite the authorities' order to vacate dormitories following an indefinite closure on Sunday night, most male students of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) have refused to leave.

Yesterday morning, students brought out processions on campus wielding sticks and declared they would not leave the halls.

At a press conference at the university's Aamtolu around 11:30am, they placed a six-point demand.

Their demands included the withdrawal of the order to vacate halls, the resignation of the proctorial body within 24 hours, an apology from the vice chancellor for the attack on students, justice against those involved in the attack, including teachers, and the

implementation of a single combined degree.

The students gave the authorities until 2:00pm to respond, but when no steps were taken, they blocked the Dhaka-Mymensingh rail route around



4:00pm, halting train services for over two hours.

The blockade was withdrawn around 6:15pm, and rail communication

resumed, said Md Akter Hossain, officer-in-charge of Government Railway Police Station in Mymensingh.

In the evening, the agitating students held another press conference on campus, where they reiterated their six-point demands and alleged the administration had not responded.

"We want to resolve the ongoing crisis through fruitful discussions. If our demands are not fulfilled shortly, we will go for tougher movement," said Ahsanul Haque Himel, a third-year student of the Faculty of Animal Husbandry.

Contacted, BAU Proctor Prof Md Abdul Alim said there was no new decision regarding the crisis.

Mymensingh Superintendent of Police Kazi Akhtarul Alam said law enforcers have been deployed in and

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## KILLED IN MOB ATTACK

# Family's hopes shattered with Pradip's death

S DILIP ROY

In a remote village of Rangpur, grief has engulfed the family of 47-year-old Pradip Lal Robidas, who was beaten to death in a mob attack at Taraganj on August 9.

His 16-year-old daughter, Palashi Robidas, an SSC candidate this year, said, "I can't take my exams anymore. My father is gone. He was beaten to death by a mob. He was our only support. Now we struggle even for a handful of rice."

Her elder brother, Dulal Robidas, 19, passed SSC in 2022 but could not afford college. Poverty forced him into work as a day labourer to keep the family afloat. The youngest, Apon Robidas, 13, a seventh grader, also faces an uncertain future.

The family lives on borrowed land at Khamar Mokimpur village of Milonpur union in Mithapukur upazila, where six Robidas and seven Santal families reside. While most own their homesteads, Pradip's shelter comprised only two ramshackle tin rooms.

Once a roadside cobbler, Pradip lost his ankle to illness six years ago. With villagers' help, he received a battery-run van, which he drove to earn a modest living.



Apon said, "I must take up father's trade of mending shoes. Books don't fill empty stomachs."

Dulal, now the family's sole breadwinner, said, "I earn Tk 300-400 a day as a labourer, but it's not enough. The van my father drove is in police custody. If I had it, I could earn more. My brother and sister want to study, but I alone can't manage."

Officer-in-Charge of Taraganj Police Station MA Faruk said the van has been seized as evidence. "If the court decides, the van can be handed over to the family," he said.

Pradip's widow, Dulali Rani Robidas, 42, said, "My husband used to work hard to bring Tk 500-600 a day. That man has been snatched from us by the mob. I am a widow now, and my children are orphans."

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## MANOHARPUR HAAT

# A lifeline for 5,000, but lacks facilities

KM HABIBUR RAHMAN, Pirojpur

At dawn on Fridays and Mondays, the marshlands of Pirojpur's Nazirpur upazila come alive with the movement of over a hundred boats carrying fresh vegetables, fish, rice, and other goods to the lone Manoharpur haat.

Traders and farmers navigate narrow canals to reach the market, where buyers haggle, children clamber on boats, and farmers unload produce -- a lively scene overshadowed by hardship and neglect.

For at least 5,000 people from six surrounding villages, including Manoharpur, Gaokhali, Padmadubi, and Daulbari, the haat is the central hub of commerce.

Located in Daulbari Dobra union, it operates twice a week, generating weekly transactions worth around Tk 5 lakh. Wholesale buyers also collect vegetables here for distribution to other parts of the country via engine-run boats.

From Nazirpur upazila headquarters, one must travel 17 kilometres and then ride half an hour on an engine-run boat to reach the market. Visitors disembark on a fragile bamboo makeshift ghat, which becomes dangerously slippery during the monsoon and nearly unusable in winter when water levels fall.

"We risk accidents every week, but as we don't have any other place for business, we come here despite the hardship," said farmer Abdul Jalil.

Market traders echoed similar concerns. "The bazaar is our main business centre, but it lacks even the minimum facilities," said Nazrul Islam.

Bellal Hossain said structures and internal roads are in poor condition. Sanitation facilities are absent, and erosion of the adjacent canal has already reduced parts of the market.

"We had to shift our shops several times to protect them from erosion," said Abdul Hossain.

Locals and union parishad member Mohammad Shahin demanded urgent intervention.

Contacted, UNO Sajia Sahnaj Tama said, "We have a plan to construct a concrete ghat and arrange sanitation facilities. Work will begin after the rainy season."

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| <p>Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh<br/>Bangladesh Insurance Sector Development Project<br/>Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority<br/>Financial Institutions Division, Ministry of Finance<br/>Jibon Bima Bhaban, Front Block (5th Floor)<br/>10, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000<br/>www.bisdp.gov.bd; E-mail: pd.bisdproject@gmail.com;</p> |  |  |
| <b>INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)</b>   |  |  |
| 1. Ministry/Division   | Financial Institutions Division (FID)  |  |
| 2. Agency & Procuring Entity Name  | Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority (IDRA)<br>Bangladesh Insurance Sector Development Project (BISDP)   |  |
| 3. Procuring Entity Name   | Bangladesh Insurance Sector Development Project (BISDP)  |  |
| 4. Procuring Entity Code   | Not used   |  |
| 5. Procuring Entity District   | Dhaka  |  |
| 6. Invitation for  | <i>Design and building modern cafeteria and associate furniture and Fixing for BIA</i>   |  |
| 7. Invitation Ref No   | 53.03.0000.090.07.051.25-516   |  |
| 8. Date  | 01 September 2025  |  |
| <b>KEY INFORMATION</b>   |  |  |
| 9. Procurement method  | Open Tendering Method (National)   |  |
| <b>FUNDING INFORMATION</b>   |  |  |
| 10. Budget and Source of Funds   | Development Budget (GoB)   |  |
| 11. Development Partners (if applicable)   | World Bank (WB)  |  |
| <b>PARTICULAR INFORMATION</b>  |  |  |
| 12. Project/ Programme Code  | P156823  |  |
| 13. Project/ Programme Name  | Bangladesh Insurance Sector Development Project (BISDP)  |  |
| 14. Tender Package No  | G-38   |  |
| 15. Tender Package Name  | <i>Design and building modern cafeteria and associate furniture and Fixing for BIA</i>   |  |
| 16. Tender Publication Date  | 02 September 2025  |  |
| 17. Tender Last Selling Date   | 29 September 2025 up to 5.00 PM  |  |
| 18. Last Date and Time of Tender Submission  | 30 September 2025 at 03.00 PM  |  |
| 19. Tender Opening Date and Time   | 30 September 2025 at 03.30 PM  |  |
| 20. Name and Address of the office Selling, Receiving & Opening Tender Document.   | The Project Director, Bangladesh Insurance Sector Development Project (BISDP), Jibon Bima Bhaban, Front Block (5th Floor), 10, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000. Phone: 02-9514963; E-mail: pd.bisdproject@gmail.com   |  |
| 21. Last date of queries/ clarification sought by Tenderers (in writing or e-mail)   | 17 September 2025 by 4.00 PM   |  |
| <b>INFORMATION FOR TENDERER</b>  |  |  |
| 22. Eligibility of Qualifications of Tenderer  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Tenderer shall have a minimum of 05 (five) years of overall experience in the supply of Goods and related services.</li> <li>The Tenderer shall have the specific experience of supplying similar Goods of at least 01 contract successfully completed within the last 05 years each with a value of minimum Tk 1,00,00,000/- (Tk. One Crore only) i.e years counting backward from the date of publication of IFT in the newspaper.</li> <li>The minimum amount of liquid assets or working capital or credit facility is Tk. 1,50,00,000/- (BDT One Crore Fifty Lac only)</li> <li>The maximum 02 (two) number of arbitrations against the Tenderer over a period of the last 05 (five) years.</li> </ul> |  |
| 23. Brief Description of Goods:  | <i>Design and building modern cafeteria and associate furniture and Fixing for BIA</i>   |  |
| 24. Brief Description of Related Services  | Details in the Tender Document   |  |
| 25. Tender Document Price  | Tk. 1,000.00/- (Taka One Thousand) only in Pay Order (In favor of Project Director, Bangladesh Insurance Sector Development Project)   |  |
| 26. Identification of Lot  | Location   | Tender Security Amount in Taka   |
| <i>Design and building modern cafeteria and associate furniture and Fixing for BIA</i>   | Bangladesh Insurance Sector Development Project (BISDP), Jibon Bima Bhaban, Front Block (5th Floor), 10, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000  | BDT 3,70,000/- (Tk. Three Lac Seventy Thousand only) As per the provision of PPR-2008. |
| <b>PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS</b>  |  |  |
| 27. Name of Official Inviting Tender   | Md. Abdur Rab  |  |
| 28. Designation of Official Inviting Tender  | Project Director (Joint Secretary)   |  |
| 29. Address of Official Inviting Tender  | Bangladesh Insurance Sector Development Project, Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority, Jibon Bima Bhaban, Front Block (5th Floor), 10, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000 Phone: 02-9514963; E-mail: pd.bisdproject@gmail.com  |  |
| 30. Contact details of Official Inviting Tender  | Bangladesh Insurance Sector Development Project, Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority, Jibon Bima Bhaban, Front Block (5th Floor), 10, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000 Phone: 02-9514963; E-mail: pd.bisdproject@gmail.com  |  |
| 31   | The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any items or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.  |  |

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Project Director (Joint Secretary)  
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