

NORTH, NORTHEAST Heavy rain, rising rivers raise flood risk

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Bogura

The Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre (FFWC) of the Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) yesterday issued a special weather bulletin warning of heavy to very heavy rainfall across northern and northeastern Bangladesh and adjoining upstream Indian states over the next five days.

The bulletin, signed by FFWC Executive Engineer Sardar Uday Raihan, cites data from the Bangladesh and Indian meteorological departments and global weather agencies.

It projects cumulative rainfall of up to 250-300mm in isolated areas of Sylhet and Rangpur divisions between June 8 and June 13.

Intense precipitation is also expected in adjacent upstream Indian regions of Assam, Meghalaya, and West Bengal. As a result, major river basins in Bangladesh's north and northeast are forecast to rise significantly.

Water levels in the Surma and Kushiyara rivers are expected to rise steadily between June 8 and June 11, possibly reaching warning levels in Sylhet district and posing short-term risks of localised flooding. In Rangpur division, the Teesta, Dharla, and Dudhkumar rivers are also projected to swell, with the Teesta likely to touch alert thresholds in Lalmonirhat and Nilphamari.

According to BWDB data, the Jamuna river at Fulchhari station in Gaibandha rose by 28cm in the last 24 hours, though it remains 333cm below danger level. The Ghaghot river at Gaibandha New Bridge station rose by 14cm, flowing 361cm below danger level.



Illegal sand lifting continues despite raids

MINTU DESHWARA, Moulvibazar

Illegal sand extraction from hills, streams and agricultural land in Sreemangal upazila of Moulvibazar continues unabated despite sustained administrative campaigns, causing significant environmental damage and revenue losses.

Mobile court drives by local administration, fines and filing of criminal cases so far proved largely inadequate to rein in the illegal trade, while the government is losing at least Tk 6-7 crore in revenues annually.

Illegalextractionhasbeenreported from multiple locations, including Langliachhara, Sindurkhan Tea Garden, Kunjaban, Kamargaon, Chirigaon, Putiachhara, Bilash river, Makrichhara, Gandhichhara, Ichhamitichhara, Joyitachhara, Barachhara and Boulachhara, as well as parts of Kalapur, Sreemangal Sadar, Kalighat and Rajghat unions.

During a recent drive, the upazila administration seized around 10,000 cubic feet of illegally extracted sand from different locations in Bhunbir union and confiscated three extraction machines and related equipment, said Upazila Assistant Commissioner (Land) Mohibullah Akon.

In recent months, at least 25 such drives have been conducted in Sindurkhan, Bhunbir, Matiganj, and Kalapur unions. Mobile courts fined 10 individuals a total of Tk 6 lakh under the Sand and Soil Quarry (Balumahal) Management Act. Several excavators were seized and destroyed, while around 30,000 cubic feet of sand were confiscated, he added.

Also, during a joint drive by the Rapid Action Battalion, Border Guard Bangladesh, police, and the upazila administration, a sand-laden truck attempted to flee and hit a CNG run auto rickshaw and a battery-powered three-wheeler, leaving six people injured.

Angry locals later vandalised and set the truck on fire and blocked the Sreemangal-Mirzapur road for around four hours. Journalists covering the incident were also reportedly attacked. The local MP, the upazila nirbahi officer and law enforcement personnel later intervened to restore order.

On May 2, Bhunbir Union Land Assistant Officer Himel Paul filed a case against 20 named individuals, including Ferdous Mia, Ahad Mia and Kawar Mia, for illegal sand extraction and environmental destruction in the Bhunbir and Mirzapur areas.

According to the case statement, the accused had extracted sand from hilly terrain and areas adjacent to farmland for a prolonged period, disrupting the ecological balance and threatening agricultural land, settlements and local infrastructure.

More than 30 hill streams in Sreemangal flow into Hail Haor, forming an important ecological network in a region considered highly vulnerable to earthquakes. Unchecked sand extraction is causing these streams to gradually disappear.

"We used to grow paddy right up to the edge of Putiachhara stream. Now its banks have collapsed, and the water flow has reduced, and our farmland is shrinking every season. Raids, fines and cases continue, yet the sand lifting continues from our area," said Sajjad Mia, a local farmer.

Advocate Shah Shaheda Akhter, Sylhet regional coordinator of the Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association, said sand extraction from farmland despite a High Court ban amounts to contempt of court.

Moulvibazar-4 lawmaker Md Mujibur Rahman Chowdhury acknowledged the scale of the problem and said necessary steps will be taken.

Man held over sexual abuse of 5-yr-old girl

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Munshiganj

Police yesterday arrested a man over allegations of sexually abusing a five-year-old girl in Munshiganj's Gajaria upazila.

The arrestee, Manju Mia, 32, of Karimkha village under the upazila, has been living with his family in Siddhirganj area of Narayanganj, said Hasan Ali, officer-in-charge of Gajaria Police Station.

According to police and local sources, the child was standing in front of a tube-well in the courtyard of their house around 10:00am yesterday when Manju approached and sexually abused her.

Seeing the incident from a distance, the child's mother started screaming, prompting an agitated mob to beat the accused and hand him over to Gajaria police.

The victim's father later filed a case under the Women and Children Repression Prevention Act with Gajaria Police Station.

"As the accused was injured in the mob beating, he was initially treated at the upazila health complex under police custody. Later, he was sent to the court," said the OC.

Four killed as bus plunges into ditch



OUR CORRESPONDENT, B'baria

At least four people were killed and eight others injured after a passenger bus collided with a pickup van and plunged into a roadside ditch on the Dhaka-Sylhet Highway in Brahmanbaria's Sarail upazila yesterday.

The accident occurred around 12:30pm in the Baishamura area when a Digantha Paribahan passenger bus travelling from Madhabpur in Habiganj to Brahmanbaria hit a pickup van and plunged into a ditch, said Traffic Sergeant Omar of Khatihata Highway Police Station. The four passengers died on the spot.

Locals and highway police helped transport the injured to nearby hospitals. The bus was carrying around 40 to 50 passengers at the time of the crash, the police official added.

He said the drivers and helpers of both the bus and the pickup fled the scene immediately after the accident.

The identities of the deceased and injured could not be confirmed immediately.

Four Bangladeshi

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featured under SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being for her contributions to public health research and leadership in addressing health challenges in Bangladesh and beyond, according to a Facebook post by icddr.b.

The other Bangladeshi scientists included in the publication are Sabrina Elias of Independent University,

Bangladesh; Sharmin Sultana of Jahangirnagar University; and Kamrun Nahar of Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University.

The publication highlights women scientists across Asia whose research, innovation and leadership are helping advance the SDGs and address pressing social, health and environmental challenges.

বাংলাদেশ ডায়াবেটিক সমিতি
(৫ম তলা, হাসপাতাল ভবন, বারডেম)
১২২, কাজী নজরুল ইসলাম এভিনিউ, ঢাকা-১০০০

জরুরী বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বাংলাদেশ ডায়াবেটিক সমিতির আজীবন সদস্যবৃন্দের সদয় অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, এক বিপুল সংখ্যক সদস্যের ঠিকানা পরিবর্তন কিংবা অন্যবিধ কারণে তাঁদের বর্তমান ঠিকানা না থাকায় এবং তাঁদের মোবাইল টেলিফোন নম্বর এবং/অথবা ই-মেইল ঠিকানা না থাকায় বাডাস সচিবালয় থেকে তাঁদের সঙ্গে যোগাযোগ করা সম্ভব হয় না। সেজন্য আজীবন সদস্যবৃন্দের একটি তালিকা আত্র সমিতির ওয়েব সাইটে (www.dab-bd.org) রাখা হয়েছে। সম্মানিত সদস্যবৃন্দকে অনুরোধ জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, তাঁদের মধ্যে যার বা তাঁদের মোবাইল টেলিফোন নম্বর এবং ই-মেইল ঠিকানা বর্ণিত তালিকায় সংযোজিত নেই, তাঁরা আপামি ১৫.০৬.২০২৬ তারিখের মধ্যে বাডাস সচিবালয়ের ই-মেইল (taher0208@gmail.com; badassecretariat@gmail.com, mr310576@gmail.com) ঠিকানায় এবং/অথবা মোবাইল ফোন নম্বরে (০১৭১৪-১৩৪০৩৫ ও ০১৭১৬-৭২৩৬৮৮) ফুদে বার্তা মাধ্যমে অবহিত করবেন। ওয়েবসাইটে উল্লেখিত ভোটার তালিকায় যাদের নাম অন্তর্ভুক্ত আছে তাঁরা ব্যতীত অন্যান্য আজীবন সদস্যবৃন্দকে বর্ণিত তারিখের মধ্যে চাহিত তথ্য প্রদান করে ভোটার তালিকায় অন্তর্ভুক্ত হওয়ার জন্য অনুরোধ জানানো যাচ্ছে। এছাড়া যে সব আজীবন সদস্য তাঁদের পরিচিতি কার্ড সংগ্রহ করেননি, বর্ণিত তারিখের মধ্যে বাডাস সচিবালয়ে পাসপোর্ট সাইজের ০১ (এক) কপি ছবি জমা দিয়ে তাঁর/তাঁদের পরিচিতি কার্ড সংগ্রহের জন্যও অনুরোধ জানানো যাচ্ছে।

মহাসচিব
বাংলাদেশ ডায়াবেটিক সমিতি

Home minister, PHQ criticise

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He said the TIB assessment should not be treated as a definitive reflection of the law-and-order situation in the country.

Responding to questions on TIB's claims of more than 600 murders in the first 100 days of the BNP government, the minister said he had not reviewed the report in detail and could not comment on specific figures.

"We prepare monthly crime statistics covering robbery, murder, rape and other offences. Compared to the same period in previous years, the situation has improved significantly, with reductions across categories," he said.

Salahuddin Ahmed said official data indicate an overall improvement in public safety, though he refrained from engaging with the TIB figures without reviewing them.

He also rejected the watchdog's methodology, saying it does not involve verification before publication. He added that the government relies on routine crime data collected from districts, which he described as the most reliable source.

"Various reports appear in newspapers every day. We take those reports seriously and send them to the relevant departments for verification. But not every published report reflects the exact facts," he said.

On the broader law-and-order situation, he said the government had overcome the image crisis faced by police after August 5, 2024, and claimed the force had become more people-friendly and regained public confidence.

PHQ RESPONSE TO TIB REPORT
Meanwhile, Police Headquarters responded to the TIB findings, saying the claim of 605 murders in 100 days lacks proper context and methodological explanation.

It said presenting raw figures without analysing causes can be misleading.

According to PHQ, of the 605 murder cases recorded between March and April 2026, 336 (55.5%) were linked to previous enmity, 146 (24.1%) to family disputes, 69 (11.4%) to property and financial conflicts, 19 (3.1%) to accidental attacks,

nine (1.5%) to attempts to establish dominance, six (1.0%) to robbery, five (0.8%) to love affairs or extramarital relationships, and three (0.5%) were politically motivated. Another 15 cases (2.4%) were linked to rioting, dacoity, abduction and other causes.

The police said Bangladesh records between 3,000 and 4,500 murder cases annually on average. It added that if the 605 cases are annualised, the total would be around 3,630, which falls within the normal range.

On that basis, it said there is no evidence of an abnormal spike in killings.

It also said that given a population of around 18 crore, the murder rate during the two-month period stands at 0.34 per 1,00,000 people, which it described as not high by international standards.

PHQ added that increased case registration after August 5, 2024, reflects greater transparency rather than a deterioration in law and order. It also urged future assessments to rely on full data analysis instead of headline figures alone.

AHSANULLAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
141-142 Love Road, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208.
Phone: 02 8870422 (Ext.-201) Web: www.aust.edu
Ref. No: AUST/EEE, CSE, MPE, Library & CE/OTM/Tender-15/2025-26

TENDER INVITATION

Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology (AUST) is inviting sealed bids from bona fide/ reputed organizations/ distributors/ business partners/agents for:

- procurement of Lab item (Digital Oscilloscope) (Qty-5 nos.) for EEE dept
- procurement of PC (Qty- 13 nos.) CSE dept,
- procurement of Lab item (Orifice Flow Meter) for MPE dept
- procurement of Lab item (Kaplan Turbine Apparatus) for MPE dept
- procurement of Lab item (Cooling Tower) for MPE dept
- Procurement of Desktop PC (Qty-27 nos.) for MPE dept
- procurement of Books for TE dept, indent from KFR Library
- procurement of Lab item (Water bath) for CE dept
- procurement of lab item (BoD Measurement System) for CE dept

The bidders must submit earnest money @ 2.5% of the quoted price in the form of Pay Order issued from any scheduled bank drawn in favor of "Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology" along with their offer. Interested bidders may collect schedule of tender from the Procurement Office of AUST on all working days till June 17, 2026 by 4 p.m. The sealed offer must be submitted on **June 18, 2026 (Thursday)** by 2.00 p.m. at the Treasurer Office and the tenders will be opened at 02:30 p.m. on the same day (June 18, 2026). Representatives of the participating bidders may remain present at the time of opening the tenders.

The AUST authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without showing any reason whatsoever and is not bound to award the work order to the lowest bidder.

INNOVATION:: CREATION:: LEADERSHIP

ESSENTIAL DRUGS COMPANY LIMITED
395-397, Tejgaon Industrial Area
Dhaka- 1208, Bangladesh.
Date: 08 Jun'2026

Corrigendum Notice

Corrigendum to our Tender Notice No.EDCL/Dhaka/EOI/Tender/2026/168, Dated-17/05/2026 for Design, Development, Implementation of Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Software in the following manner :

- The above tender will be closed & opened on 30/06/2026 at 12.30 pm instead of 10/06/2026 at 12.00 pm
- The Discussion meeting will be held on 18/06/2026 at 11.00 am.

All other terms & conditions against the above tender will be remain unchanged. The above tender was published earlier in The Daily Star and The Daily Samakal on 18/05/2026 and Bangladesh Public Procurement Authority (BPPA) on 19/05/2026.

General Manager (cc)
Procurement Department
For: Managing Director

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