



Bagerhat district primary education office.

PHOTO: STAR

E-service to ensure hassle-free retirement benefits

Bagerhat edn office takes the initiative for govt primary teachers

PARTHA CHAKRABORTY, Bagerhat

Primary school teachers in Bagerhat will get all the documents and information relating to their post-retirement leave (PRL), retirement and pension allowance online, thanks to the district primary education department's initiative for hassle-free disbursement of retirement allowance and pension for the teachers.

In January, the authorities concerned started experimental operation of the service titled "E-Pension and PRL Grant Order Home Delivery Service" and it will hopefully start in full swing next March, said officials of the district primary education department.

In existing system, a teacher has to approach different desks at upazila and district level primary education and accounts offices multiple times for getting the documents and information relating to their

PRL, retirement allowance and pension.

There are allegations that a section of unscrupulous government officers harass retired teachers and realise bribes to complete the process for withdrawal of retirement allowance and pension.

Often it takes quite a long time for the relevant government orders and other documents to reach upazila education and account offices, causing delay in disbursement of the retirement allowance of teachers.

To end the nuisance, the district primary education office decided to introduce the new system and created a database in which the authorities concerned have preserved all the information of the teachers, who will go on PRL within next one year, in the district.

Taking information from the database, officers concerned will issue hard copy of letter to the teachers, who will go on PRL shortly.

Afterwards, the teachers will manually submit all the necessary documents along with an email address and phone number to the local upazila primary education office, which will send the papers manually to district education officer.

Then the district education office will prepare government order and other necessary documents for the retired teachers' PRL and sent the documents to the email address and Facebook Messenger, IMO and WhatsApp (if any) of the teacher concerned.

Copies of the government order will be sent to the email address of all the relevant offices including upazila education office and the government's account office from where the allowance for PRL, retirement and pension will be disbursed.

"From now on, we will send these orders and documents via emails. So, there

will be no chance of delay in payment of the retired teachers' allowance," said Md Kabir Uddin, district primary education officer in Bagerhat.

Talking to The Daily Star, several teachers welcomed the initiative and expressed hope that it would mitigate their sufferings.

"I was a bit anxious about withdrawal of my retirement benefits. I think this online service will help me to get the money easily," said Asit Das, a recently retired teacher of Sangdia Government Primary School in Kachua upazila.

Keya Chowdhury, assistant teacher of Badhal Government Primary School in the upazila, said, "My mother, who is also a primary school teacher, has already got retirement papers to get the online service. If this is implemented, we will be really benefited."

PROCUREMENT OF PADDY SEEDS BY BADC

Sylhet farmers protest prices below cost

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Frustration among 539 farmers in Sylhet division is boiling over as the Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation (BADC) on February 18 set prices for paddy seeds below the production cost of the farmers.

The aggrieved farmers, selected in December last year to supply paddy seeds to the BADC, on February 23 submitted a memorandum to BADC deputy director in Sylhet, demanding higher prices for the paddy seeds they are to supply, said Rakib Chowdhury, president of Moulvibazar Seed Farmers Association.

Admitting that the higher authorities of BADC announced the prices after the contract was made, Musharraf Hossain, deputy assistant director of BADC in Moulvibazar, said the price per kilogram of BRRI-49 variety of paddy seed has been fixed at Tk 30, while each kg of BRRI-11, BRRI-22, BRRI-32 and BINA-7 varieties were set at Tk 29.

Before setting the procurement prices for different varieties of paddy seeds, different aspects of production costs including sorting out of defective (also known as chita in Bangla) seeds, storage, weighing and transportation need to be considered, said farmer association leader Rakib.

Since the production cost, excluding other affiliated costs, was around Tk 30, the seed growers will incur huge losses if the BADC's procurement prices of different varieties of paddy seeds are not set between Tk 41 and Tk 45.

The farmers will not supply paddy seeds to the BADC in future unless the prices are set reasonably and ahead of time, he also warned.

Paddy seed grower Mofiz Uddin, from Bhuksimoil area of Hakaluki Haor in Moulvibazar's Kulaura upazila, said he took a loan to cultivate Aman paddy seeds on three bighas of land.

But with the procurement prices set by the BADC, he would incur a loss of Tk 3,000 and would not be able to repay the loan.

"I won't cultivate paddy seed unless the prices are raised. Since the costs of fertiliser, pesticide and labour are on the rise, there's no point in growing paddy."

Ashutosh Das, deputy director of BADC Seed Production Centre in Sylhet, said the assessed cost of seed production (by farmers) they sent to the BADC higher authorities was Tk 31.97 per kg.

Supriyo Paul, deputy director (marketing) of BADC in Sylhet, said, "We have nothing to do with the prices... The price is set centrally."

The higher authorities were informed of the farmers' concerns, he also said.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh	
College Education Development Project (CEDP)	
Sherpur Govt. College, Sherpur	
Invitation for Tenders	
1	Ministry/Division: Ministry of Education.
2	Agency: University Grants Commission/National University.
3	Procuring entity name: Principal, Sherpur Govt. College, Sherpur.
4	Procuring entity code: N/A.
5	Procuring entity district: Sherpur.
6	Invitation for: Renovation and refurbishment of classrooms, seminar rooms, library, science labs and washrooms.
7	Invitation Ref. No.: CEDP/IDG/SGC-1084/W-1/01(05)/20
8	Date: 26/02/2020
KEY INFORMATION	
9	Procurement method: Open Tendering Method (National).
FUNDING INFORMATION	
10	Budget and source of funds: Development Budget (Government & IDA Credit).
11	Development partners: International Development Association (IDA), World Bank.
PARTICULAR INFORMATION	
12	Project code: 224017200
13	Project name: College Education Development Project (CEDP).
14	Tender package No.: W-1
15	Tender package name: Renovation and refurbishment of classrooms, seminar rooms, library, science labs and washrooms.
16	Tender publication date: 26/02/2020
17	Tender last selling date: 14/03/2020
18	Tender closing date and time: 15/03/2020, 1.00pm.
19	Tender opening date and time: 15/03/2020, 2.00pm.
20	Name & address of the office: Principal, Sherpur Govt. College, Sherpur.
	Selling tender document: (1) Office of the Principal, Sherpur Govt. College, Sherpur. (2) Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Sherpur. (3) Office of the Superintendent of Police, Sherpur.
	Receiving tender document: (1) Office of the Principal, Sherpur Govt. College, Sherpur. (2) Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Sherpur. (3) Office of the Superintendent of Police, Sherpur.
	Opening tender document: Office of the Principal, Sherpur Govt. College, Sherpur.
21	Place /date/time of pre-tender meeting (optional): Will not be held.
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER	
22	Eligibility of tenderer: (1) The tenderer shall have a minimum number 05 years general experience in refurbishment activities (renovation/repair/extension) and physical services. (2) The tenderer shall have satisfactory completion of refurbishment activities of minimum BDT 35 lac only under maximum 01 contract in the last 03 years. (3) The required average annual construction turnover shall be greater than BDT 80 lac only over the last 03 years. (4) The minimum amount of liquid assets i.e. working capital or credit line(s) of the tenderers shall be Tk 30 lac.
23	Brief description of works: Brick work, Plaster, Floor & wall tiles, Plastic paint, Door window repair, grille repair, Sanitary work & Electrification works etc.
24	Brief description of related services: Related service shall be in accordance with Section 4: Particular Conditions of Contract, Section 6: Bill of Quantities.
25	Tender document price: BDT 2,500.00 (two thousand and five hundred Tk only).
26	Tender name: Location: Sherpur Govt. College, Sherpur. Tender security amount (Tk): 1.50 lac. Completion time in months: 2 (two) months.
27	Name of official inviting tender: Professor Md. Sarwar Jahan.
28	Designation of official inviting tender: Principal, Sherpur Govt. College, Sherpur.
29	Address of official inviting tender: Sherpur Govt. College, Sherpur.
30	Contact details of official inviting tender: Tel: 0931-61219.
31	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.
Professor Md. Sarwar Jahan Principal Sherpur Govt. College, Sherpur	

GD-365

LONE SHAHEED MINAR IN NAGOR UNION

A freedom fighter's last tribute

MD AMINUL ISLAM with MD MIZANUR RAHMAN HIMADRI, Mymensingh

He even spent the last days of his life working for the welfare of the nation. There was no Shaheed Minar in Nagor union of Netrakona's Khaliyajury upazila to pay homage to the martyrs of 1952 Language Movement. Nobody bothered to build a permanent structure there even years after the language movement.

But freedom fighter (FF) Khelon Talukder could not sit idle noticing such negligence towards the language heroes and built a Shaheed Minar on the courtyard of his house at Udaypur village in 2018, said locals, adding that it is now the only one Shaheed Minar, a monument to commemorate the language martyrs, for thousands of people in the union.

Khelon died at the age of 71 in January last year, said his son Subrata Talukder.

"As there was no Shaheed Minar in the union, my father built it with the money that he received from the allowance meant for freedom fighters," said Subrata, adding that Tk 15,000 was spent for construction of the permanent structure.

Prantosh Samonto, headmaster of Udaypur Government Primary School, said there are 13 educational institutions, including 10 government primary schools, in the union but there was no Shaheed Minar in the institutions.

In 2018, late freedom fighter Khelon built a Shaheed Minar on the courtyard of his home and since then they have been placing floral wreaths at the monument on February 21 every year to pay



Late freedom fighter Khelon Talukder built the lone Shaheed Minar on the courtyard of his home in Nagor union of Netrakona's Khaliyajury upazila in 2018.

PHOTO: STAR

homage to the language heroes, said the headmaster.

The late freedom fighter will be remembered forever for his contribution to the nation, said Prantosh.

"We are grateful to the freedom fighter for taking such great initiative towards the language heroes," said Anik Sarker, a college student of Udaypur village.

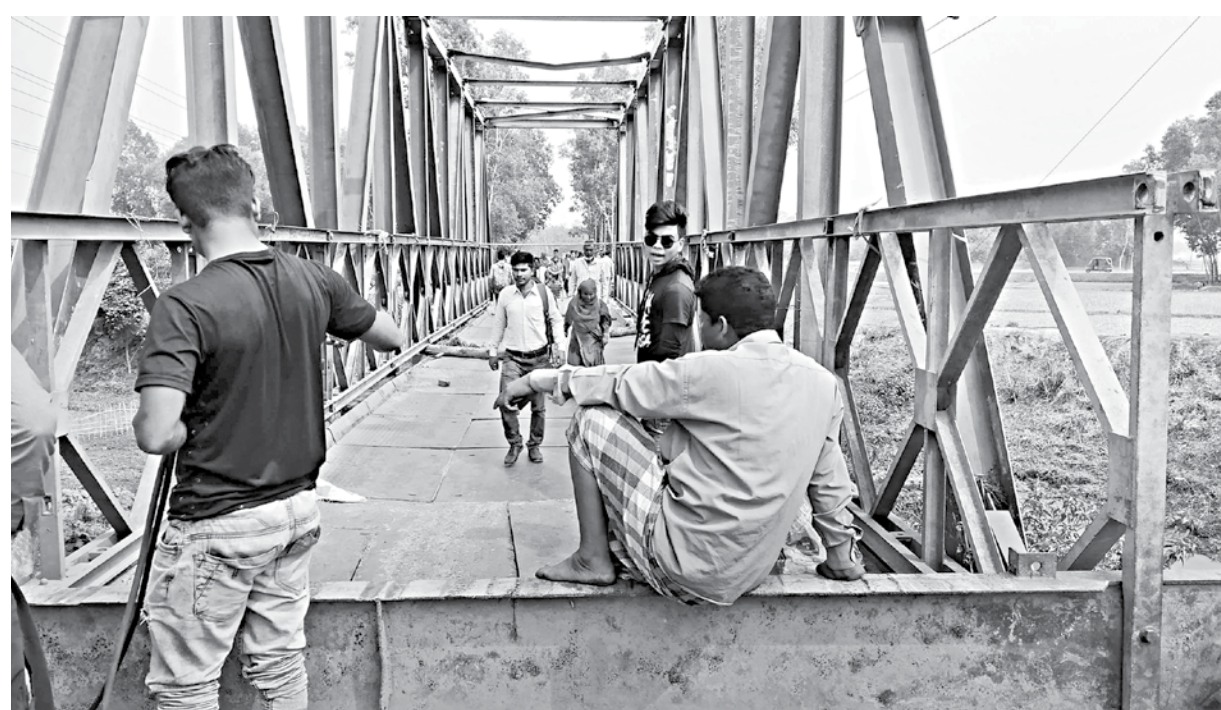
"We can now pay tribute to the language heroes by offering floral wreaths at the Shaheed Minar during the Language Martyrs' Day and International Mother Language Day on February

21," said Sumita Samanto, a Class V student of the primary school.

Haridhan Sarker, chairman of Nagor Union Parishad, said it is the only one Shaheed Minar for some 15000 people in the union.

They have already taken initiative to build Shaheed Minar at least three schools in the union, said the chairman.

Upazila Nirbahi Officer AHM Ariful Islam said they have already taken initiative to build Shaheed Minar at every educational institution.



The Roads and Highways Department on Monday started work to repair this ramshackle Bailey bridge over Khinni Chhara canal on Shamsheernagar-Kamalganj-Sreemangal road in Kamalganj upazila of Moulvibazar. Despite temporary sufferings of commuters, vehicular movement on the important road has to be kept suspended for three days till today due to the repair work that became an utter necessity, said officials.

PHOTO: MINTU DESHWARA

Man to die for murder

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

A Kishoreganj court on Monday sentenced a man to death for killing his sister-in-law over previous enmity in Kuliarchar upazila in 2002.

The convict, Mohammad Bashir, 41, son of late Monir Uddin of Laxmipur village, was tried in absentia.

The court also fined him Tk 1 lakh.

According to the prosecution, Bashir entered the house of Ambia Khatun, 32, on May 3 in 2002, when Ambia was sleeping with her daughter, and strangled her before fleeing the scene.