

KUWAIT MAITREE HOSPITAL

ACC asks director for documents

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) has asked the director of Kuwait-Bangladesh Maitree Hospital to provide different documents, including the ones with backdated signatures of Dr Soheli Parvin and Dr Mamunur Rashid.

ACC's director Mir Md Zainul Abedin Shebly made the request in a letter.

ACC is enquiring into allegations against Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) and different hospital officials and staff, who have made huge money through procuring sub-standard PPE, masks and other medical equipment for doctors treating Covid-19 patients.

As a part of the enquiry, ACC sought the information. In the letter, ACC asked for the bill and vouchers where Soheli and Mamunur signed with backdates.

According to media reports, Dr Sehabuddin, superintendent of the hospital, allegedly bought equipment for Covid-19 treatment at 10 times the actual price.

Soheli and Mamunur were purchase committee members. On August 25, they were forced to sign on procurement related papers, sources said.

The Daily Star tried to reach Dr Sehabuddin for comments over phone but failed.

ACC also asked the hospital director to provide details of items procured between March and August, about suppliers and attested copies of contract papers.

In the letter, ACC asked the director to provide information on the amount of money given to suppliers and status of PPE stock, masks and other equipment.

The hospital authority was asked to provide the information by September 10.

Journo attacked in Habiganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

A local journalist has been beaten up by some youths in Habiganj town.

Tarek Habib, chief reporter of the Daily Amar Habiganj, came under attack while he was going to his office by a rickshaw after attending an event on Saturday afternoon.

Habib said five to seven youths wielding rods and sticks stopped him at Shanir Akhra and beat him.

The attackers also snatched away his mobile phone and some money, he added.

Later, locals rescued him and took him to Habiganj Sadar Hospital.

Habib said he has no previous enmity with the attackers known to him.

Masuk Ali, officer-in-charge of Sadar Police Station, said a case was filed with the police station against four named and three unknown people on Saturday night. He said they were looking into the matter.

Ensure prompt delivery of justice

Law Minister urges judges

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Law Minister Anisul Huq yesterday urged the lower court judges to discharge judicial functions with competence, honesty and sincerity in order to ensure justice for people within short period of time and to uphold the dignity and image of the judiciary.

"The judges are independent in accordance with the constitution. But, it should be kept in mind that people's faith in the judiciary becomes questionable if long delay takes place in dispensation of justice," he said.

The law minister was speaking as chief guest at a meeting virtually organised to inaugurate a five-day orientation course for the new judges of the Nari o Shishu Nirjaton Daman Tribunals at the Judicial Administration Training Institute (JATI) in Dhaka.

Thirty-five judges are participating in the orientation course at the JATI. Law Minister Anisul Huq said the judges must discharge their duties in such a manner so that justice reaches to people's door within a very short time.

"The Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina-led government will provide all supports for this purpose," he said.

Minister Anisul Huq said, "We have been facing challenges each and every moment. Today, we are facing coronavirus challenges. We don't know what challenges we will face in future. But, we must overcome all the challenges with experience, sincerity and competence."

The law minister said the government had a plan to clear six lakh cases from its existing backlog within this year, but the ongoing coronavirus pandemic has hampered implementation of the plan. There is around four months' time in current year, he said.

ARMS CASE

Two IOs testify against Papia, her husband

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Two investigation officers (IO) yesterday gave their statements before a Dhaka tribunal in connection with an arms case against expelled leader of Jubo Mohila League Shamima Nur Papia and her husband Mofizur Rahman Sumon.

The witnesses are: Sub-inspector Sudhansu Sarkar of Sher-e-Bangla Nagar Police Station and also the first IO, and DB Inspector Sairul Islam and the second IO of the case.

Judge KM Emrul Kayesh of the Special Tribunal-1 of Dhaka recorded statement of the witnesses. Later, the witnesses were cross-examined on behalf of the accused.

SI Md Arifuzzaman of Rab and also the last IO gave his part of his deposition before the same tribunal.

The judge then fixed September 8 for next hearing of the case.

In his statement, SI Sudhansu said he took over the charge of investigation on February 24 after the case was filed against the couple. He said he visited the place of occurrence (PO) and prepared a sketch map. Later, the case was transferred to DB.

In his statement, Sairul said he took over the charge of investigation on March 1 and

continued till March 11. He visited the PO again, prepared a sketch map and recorded statements of three witnesses.

He also seized Tk 10 lakh from the house of couple, Sairul added.

Later, the case was transferred to Rab.

Earlier, nine prosecution witnesses including the case complainant gave their statements before the same tribunal.

A team of Rab arrested Papia and her husband -- a former Chhatra League leader -- and their two accomplices from Dhaka airport on February 22 when they were trying to leave the country.

The following morning, Rab raided the house of Papia at Indira Road in Farmgate and recovered a foreign pistol, two magazines, 20 bullets, five bottles of foreign liquor, Tk 58,41,000 cash, credit and debit cards of different banks.

On February 24, an arms case was filed against the couple with Sher-e-Bangla Nagar Police Station.

On August 23, the same tribunal framed charges against the couple in the case. On June 29, SI Arifuzzaman submitted the charge sheet against the couple to the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court of Dhaka.

4 armed

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ministry directive that was forwarded to Rajshahi Range Ansar through the Ministry of Public Administration on Thursday, he said.

"The UNOs had been demanding security to their residences and offices for a long time over different issues. The decision came after the attack on Ghoraghat UNO Wahida Khanam," said Fazle Rabbi.

"We've received verbal instruction from government high-ups to take preparations for increasing the number."

"When additional forces were ordered, there would be separate security arrangements at the UNOs' offices and residences," he said.

In Rajshahi, four armed Ansar members have been seen guarding the residence of the UNO of Tanore upazila since Saturday morning.

Rajshahi's DC Abdul Jalil told reporters that all nine UNOs in the district have received the security arrangement at their residences.

On September 3, Ghoraghat UNO Wahida Khanam was attacked by miscreants at her official residence. She received critical injuries. Her father was also injured in the attack.

JS adopts obituary motion on Pranab, two lawmakers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jatiya Sangsad yesterday unanimously adopted a condolence motion expressing profound shock at the demise of two running lawmakers, former Indian President Pranab Mukherjee and other distinguished personalities who died since prorogation of last eighth session of parliament on July 9.

Speaker Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury moved the condolence motion immediately after beginning of the ninth JS session, which was adopted following a brief discussion by the lawmakers.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, also leader of the House, took part in the discussion.

The MPs described the former Indian president as a "true friend" of Bangladesh and showed their deep respect to Pranab, who was the first Bangalee president of neighbouring India.

Pranab Mukherjee, the 13th Indian president, breathed his last on August 31 due to brain hemorrhage and coronavirus at Sena Hospital in New Delhi, aged 84.

The parliament also adopted obituary motion over the death of two running lawmakers -- Shahara

Khatun of Dhaka-18 and Israfil Alam of Naogaon-6 constituencies.

Shahara, a former home and post and telecommunication minister, died on July 9 at a Thai hospital, aged 77.

Israfil Alam died of Covid-19 at a Dhaka hospital on July 27, at the age of 54.

Sheikh Hasina said Shahara Khatun was very honest person and dedicated to the party, who always played a bold role in every movement and struggle.

About Israfil Alam, the PM said he was very brilliant. She expressed deep shock at the death.

Remembering Pranab Mukherjee, Hasina said he always stood for Bangladesh and for the wellbeing of its people.

Former minister Matia Chowdhury, Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan, Railway Minister Nurul Islam Sujon, State Minister for Labour and Employment Mannujan Sufan, State Minister for ICT Zunaid Ahmed Palak, former minister Shahjahan Khan and Deputy Leader of the Opposition in parliament GM Quader, among others, spoke.

No one

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right. Therefore, the protection of those who exercise this right, including journalists, must be ensured. At the same time, it is necessary to create an environment where the media can work independently."

Faruq Faisal said, "With a free and independent media environment, the personal safety and security of journalists is inextricably linked. Bangladesh lags behind in South Asia in terms of security of media workers and freedom of expression. This situation has tarnished the progress of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of Bangladesh. The 16th goal of the SDGs is to establish good governance, such as peace, justice, strong institutions and an inclusive society. To achieve this goal, it is important to ensure freedom of expression as a whole."

At the beginning of the program, peace and prayers were sought for all those who passed away from Covid-19 and those killed in the blast at a mosque in Narayanganj.

The NHRC chairman also called for swift investigation and action against the culprits if any evidence of negligence is found in the blast.

A vehicle

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As per section Ka (9) of the guideline, one motor vehicle owner will be able to get enlisted with only one service provider.

But the companies demanded change in the section from the beginning. Besides, many vehicle owners currently provide service under more than one company, which is illegal, a BRTA official said yesterday.

"So we sent a proposal to the ministry last month to bring changes in the guideline," the official said, wishing not to be named.

The president gave approval to the proposal on September 3 and the road transport and bridges ministry wrote to the form and publication office to issue a gazette in this regard.

After the change, one vehicle owner will be allowed to provide service with only one vehicle. However, he or she would be allowed to get the vehicle enlisted with multiple companies by paying an extra charge for enlistment with each company. This yearly fee stands at Tk 1,000 for cars and Tk 500 for motorcycles.

According to a BRTA document, there are some 1.23 lakh cars and motorcycles associated with different ride-hailing companies. Of them, 1.04 lakh are motorcycles.

Lights, camera

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Bangladesh Film Directors Association's office lies a little further ahead. Film directors of all ages come here to work and spend their leisure time together. However, during the pandemic, even this bustling spot has thinned as fewer and fewer people visit nowadays.

"The pandemic has messed up everything," said Badiul Alam Khokon, general secretary of the association. "The film industry is going through hard times. We are not being able to work on anything. Yet, for some strange pull, some of us still come to FDC every day."

Road, auditorium

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Addressing the programme, Anisuzzaman said, "A university has been set up in Trishal to preserve the memory of Kazi Nazrul Islam. Ahmad was very close to him, and yet we have not been able to establish anything in his remembrance. So, the time has come to reinvigorate Ahmad's memory."

Abdul Motin said Ahmad is an iconic figure for Trishal's youth.

"We need to organise more programmes to enlighten the new generation about Ahmad's work."

UNO Mustafizur said, "It is a matter of great pride for Trishal's people that such a huge personality like Ahmad was born and raised in the upazila, but there

is no trace of him here. Through today's event, youths are remembering him and preserving his memory, which is a positive change."

Conducted by Fahim Ahmed Mondol, central president of Sonjibon Jubo Songstha, many prominent local journalists spoke at the programme.

Later, in response to requests of Jubo Songstha leaders, the upazila chairperson announced to name a road in Trishal "Abul Mansur Ahmad Road", and the municipal mayor decided to name the municipal auditorium after the noted litterateur.

At the end of the programme, prayers were offered to seek forgiveness for Ahmad's departed soul.

EXPERTS URGE

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experts. At the MoHFW (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare) level, the top health-bureaucrats are mostly drawn from other ministries, often unrelated to the health sector, he said.

In Bangladesh, only the doctors with MBBS degree (or equivalent) are recruited as officers in BCS (health) cadre. In contrast, any new recruit in the Sri Lankan health service has to choose either of the two tracks: curative or preventive healthcare institutions.

"Our proposition for the reform of the health service structure of Bangladesh, similar to Sri Lanka, is to formalise public health within the mainstream health service architecture," Dr Joarder said.

Prof Shah Monir Hossain, former director general of the Directorate General of Health Services, said the health ministry is largely run by administration officials with no education or experience in health or public health.

On the other hand, a civil surgeon is basically a clinician with no experience or education on public health. Even, those running the hospitals do not have health management skills, which they must have, he said.

"We need a massive reform, but we don't see political commitment," Monir Hossain said.

Dr Halida Hanum Akhter, senior associate at the Center for Human Nutrition, Department of International Health, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, said development of a country largely depends on how improved a country's public health system is.

Sadly, she said, the concept of public health is almost absent in Bangladesh. Also, commitment of the healthcare professionals to the community needs to be instilled into students at undergraduate levels, and that can lead to vital reforms.

Health communication and advocacy for behaviour change is also important in public health but that's neglected in the country's medical education, Dr Halida said.

Speakers proposed a broad consultation on the restructuring of the country's health system, including legal reforms.

Farida Akter of UBINIG; former additional DG of DGHS Prof Sanya Tahmina; WHO former adviser Prof Muzaher Huq; Bangladesh University of Health Sciences former VC Prof Liaqat Ali and Prothom Alo joint editor Mizanur Rahman Khan also spoke at the webinar, chaired by PHFB Chairperson Prof Sharmeen Yasmeen.

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Office of the Upazila Engineer

Hairampur, Manikgonj

Web: www.lged.gov.bd

Memo No. 48.02.5628.14.157-19-451

e-Tender Notice Number: 01/2020-2021

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the Procurement of PEDP-4 funded of following Tender ID & Schemes (Development fund & Tendering method: OTM).

Tender ID No.	Name of scheme & Package No.	Description of tender/proposal documents
482365	Construction of class additional classroom of Ujan Boyra GPS-(PEDP-4) under Hairampur Upazila, Dist: Manikgonj. (e-Tender/PEDP-4/MNK/2019-20/W2.01334)	Last selling date & time 28/09/2020 at 5.00pm
482356	Construction of class additional classroom of Dakorkhali GPS-(PEDP-4) under Hairampur Upazila, Dist: Manikgonj. (e-Tender/PEDP-4/MNK/2019-20/W1.00633)	Closing date & time 29/09/2020 at 12.00pm
482367	Construction of class additional classroom of Maluchi GPS-(PEDP-4) under Hairampur Upazila, Dist: Manikgonj. (e-Tender/PEDP-4/MNK/2019-20/W2.01335)	

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Upazila Engineer

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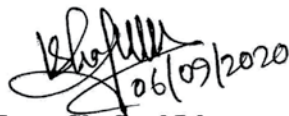
Sl. No.	Tender ID	Brief Description of Tender	Publication Date	Last Selling Date&Time	Opening Date
1	485095	Supply of dosing chemicals (Flocculant, Algaecide, Biocide, Bio Dispersant, Scale Inhibitor, Corrosion Inhibitor etc) through Framework contract.	06-Sep-2020	04-Oct-2020 15:30	05-Oct-2020
2	488810	Supply of Spare parts of Steam Turbine Instrumentation	07-Sep-2020	05-Oct-2020 15:30	06-Oct-2020

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<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd/resources/common/ViewTender.jsp?id=485095>

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Engr. Shafiqul Islam

Plant Manager (Superintending Engineer)

Sirajganj 225 MW Combined Cycle Power Plant (Unit-2) NWPGL, Soydabad, Sirajganj.