

TK 14 CR GRAFT CHARGE AGAINST EX-JP MP RANGA, ZAKER PARTY LEADER PINTU

Police find allegation correct, to submit report tomorrow

RAFIQUE SARKER, from Rangpur

Police during investigation found the Tk 13.55 crore graft charge against former Jatiya Party (Ershad) lawmaker Moshir Rahman Ranga and Rangpur Zaker Party president Ali Azgor Pintu correct. The investigation report will be submitted to court here tomorrow, investigation officer of the case Humayun Kabir told this correspondent yesterday.

Ranga and Pintu were president and secretary respectively of Rangpur Zila Motor Malik Samiti (bus owners association). The money realised from vehicles in last 17 years on different heads was misappropriated by Ranga and Pintu, according to the allegations made by two office bearers of the association.

Pintu is in Rangpur jail and Ranga is absconding since declaration of emergency, police said. According to the allegations, Ranga and Pintu collected tolls amounting to Tk 13.55 crore from 300 buses plying different routes from or



MOSHIUR RAHMAN RANGA

through Rangpur.

According to the investigation report, every day they collected Tk 300 from each Dhaka bound bus, Tk 450 from Rajshahi bound bus, Tk 150 from Gaibandha bound bus, Tk 250 from Bogra bound bus, Tk 250 from Pathgram bound bus, Tk 50 from Fulbari bound bus and Tk 100 from buses bound for Lalmonirhat, Kurigram and Nilphamari.

The money was collected on different heads like development fund, accident fund, mosque fund, and bus stand charge.

Sirajul Islam, a member of Rangpur Zila Motor Malik Samiti, lodged a general diary against Ranga and Pintu with Rangpur Kotwali police station on July 29 in this connection. The GD was later turned into a regular case, which was investigated on a court order, IO of the case Humayun Kabir said.

Earlier, accountant of the Samiti, Nital Chandra Roy, lodged a Tk 34 lakh graft case against them with the same police station. On contact, Sirajul Islam said, the amount of misappropriated money would be several times bigger than what Nital mentioned in the case.

Sirajul said members of the Samiti kept mum for last 17 years because whenever they tried to open their mouth against corruption by Ranga and Pintu, they were intimidated.

Talking to this correspondent on condition of anonymity, some

other members of the Samiti claimed that they did not dare to protest as Ranga and Pintu maintained good relations with a section of police and district administration officials. They harassed him if any body tried to protest their irregularities, they claimed.

Joint forces arrested Abu Azgor Pintu following filing of the case by Nital Chandra Roy after proclamation of emergency.

The Samiti members alleged that Ranga and Pintu collected the illegal toll by using musclemen and abusing party posts. The two leaders maintained a gang of about 200 musclemen who collected the toll at different points in the district.

Ranga and Pintu were elected president and secretary of Rangpur Zila Motor Malik Samiti in 1990.

Being elected, they made some major amendments to the Samiti's constitution so that they can retain their positions for long, the members alleged.

Ex-BNP MP in Bagerhat chargesheeted

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Bagerhat detective branch (DB) Police have pressed another charge-sheet accusing detained former BNP lawmaker MAH Selim alias Silver Selim and his private secretary Hasibur Rahman of extortion. They have been shown arrested in this case under Emergency Power Rules (EPR).

The chargesheet was submitted to court Thursday afternoon by investigating officer of the case officer-in-charge of Bagerhat police Tofazzel Hossain.

It has been mentioned in the charge sheet that Bagerhat district BNP president MAH Selim extorted Tk 6, 48,000 from contractor Kamrul Hasan on February 9 last year. The money was paid in four cheques of Bagerhat branch of Uttara Bank.

The money realised as toll was later deposited with the savings account of Selim in the same bank on the same day.

Contractor Kamrul Hasan filed a case in this connection with Bagerhat Sadar police station on June 17.

With this, the number of cases filed against the ex-lawmaker with three police stations in Bagerhat district now stands at nine, police said.

2 hurt in bomb attack by outlaws

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Two persons including a local Awami League (AL) leader was injured as outlaws blasted four bombs at Gangni Bazar in Meherpur district last night.

The injured are Gangni upazila AL Leader Mazirul, 45, and his employee labourer Huda, 25.

At around 8:00pm, outlaws hurled four bombs at Mazirul's rice shop, leaving him and his employee Huda injured, locals said.

A few days ago, a group of outlaws demanded Tk 5 lakh as toll from Mazirul who declined to pay the amount, police said.

Rapid Action Battalion and police rushed to the spot after the incident but they could not arrest anyone in this connection.

BARISAL-DHAKA ROUTE

Transport owners fleece passengers ahead of Eid

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Amid crisis of tickets for water vessels and buses on Barisal-Dhaka-Barisal route, passengers have to pay 40 to 60 per cent extra amount for tickets from the counters while the prices are almost double in black markets.

Suffering passengers have said private water and road transport companies have stopped advance booking and are now charging the extra fare.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) has arranged special services on Barisal-Dhaka-Barisal route to ease the sufferings of home-bound passengers during Eid vacation, BIWTA sources said.

Under the arrangement, six BIWTA water vessels will ply the

route from October 10 to October 20, they said.

Pedal steamers Ostrich, Mahsud, Lepcha and Turn will be provided for the special services.

In addition to regular services, special services of sea trucks from Ilisha to Moju Chowdhuri Hut for passengers of Barisal-Chittagong route will be arranged for October 10-16.

Passengers of Barisal-Dhaka-Barisal route have demanded more transport facilities for their return trips till October 20 as Eid and Puja vacations fall at the same time.

Barisal BIWTA Port Officer Saiful Islam said a control room will work round the clock from October 9 to 16 to monitor the overall situation.

The schedule has been prepared at their Dhaka head office

and it may be revised if rush of passengers continues, Barisal BIWTA Station Manager Khalid Newaz said.

Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC) also announced special services for Eid on Barisal-Barguna-Rangpur and Charchashon-Jessore routes, said the local BRTC station manager.

Extra trips will also be arranged on other routes to tackle the rush of passengers if transports are available, he added.

Law enforcers will be deployed during October 9 to 20 at different stations and key points to ensure safety and security of passengers and prevent overloading and collection of extra fare and tolls.

Mobile teams will also move on roads and highways.

'HYV BRRI Dhan-33 to rid N dists of monga'

RAFIQUE SARKER, from Rangpur

At least 30,000 agricultural day labourers of five districts in Rangpur region can be employed in the current monga season as harvest of high yielding rice BRRI-Dhan 33 on 5,000 acres of land has already started.

Rangpur-Dinajpur Rural Service (RDRS) Director (Livelihood) Dr Shamsuzzaman revealed the information at a meeting held at the ground of Moishamuri Primary School in Kakina union under Lalmonirhat district on the occasion of the 'Field day' observed on Thursday.

BRRI-Dhan 33, a high yielding variety that has been invented to remove monga from the northern districts, can be harvested in 90 to 100 days while harvest of Aman rice generally takes 120 to 140 days, Dr Shamsuzzaman said.

Cultivation of the rice can help create job opportunities for the

agricultural day labourers in the Bengali months of Ashwin and Kartik when monga problem is severe, he said.

The RDRS director sought support from the government as well as NGOs to help all the farmers of the northern districts get the benefit of BRRI-Dhan 33.

RDRS with the help of Bangladesh Agriculture Research Institute invented the high yielding variety around five years ago.

Earlier on that day, GOC of 66 Artillery Division (Rangpur Cantonment) Maj Gen Fatme Ahmed Roomy, who was chief guest at the meeting, Dr Shamsuzzaman and several other army officials observed the harvest of BRRI-Dhan 33 in the field of Abdul Awal.

"The government has taken up some steps to prevent monga and I hope they will think over BRRI-Dhan 33 to solve the problem in the region," Maj Gen Roomy said.

Outlaws kill tea vendor in Pabna

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Outlaws have allegedly killed a tea vendor at Kadambagdi village of Ekdanta union in Atghoria upazila.

Tea vendor Khondokar Ekram Hossain, son of Md Abdus Sattar of the same village was chopped to death by miscreants at about 11 pm on Thursday, police and locals said. At that time, he was returning home from the local market, police said. His body was cut down to pieces while his head was separated from the body.

Being informed, Atghoria police rushed the spot and recovered the body from a paddy field near the spot. Police sent the body to Pabna General Hospital morgue for autopsy yesterday.

The motive behind the murder is yet to be ascertained. Police suspected that cadres of the outlawed Sarbajha Party might have killed Ekram due to past enmity or for his failure to pay them toll.

On contact, Atghoria police station officer in charge (OC) Md Abu Bakar Siddique confirmed the report.

Illegal vermicelli factory found at BNP leader's house in Sylhet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A mobile court here has unearthed an unauthorised vermicelli factory at a BNP leader's house.

First class magistrate Devjit Sinha led the joint drive conducted at the house of Sylhet city BNP vice president Abul Kaher Shamim.

The mobile team found the workers preparing vermicelli and other food items at the factory in an unhygienic atmosphere. Dead cockroaches were also found on the floor of the factory. The law enforcers also seized some empty packets of four companies.

Factory supervisor Keshob Chandra Acharya was also arrested during the raid conducted Thursday night. But factory owner Shamim was not present at that time.

Vermicelli, in name of 'Paramount Food Products', were on supply in large scale in local markets, police said. Paramount Food Products used logo of 'Banoful', they said. This way, they were cheating customers in name of Banoful, they said.

A BSTI official said Paramount applied for its authentication about five years ago. On failure, they started using fake authentication logo of BSTI, he alleged.

Three cases have been lodged with Kotwali police station in this connection.

BDR foils push-in bid by BSF

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) foiled a push-in attempt by Indian Border Security Force (BSF) at Hijald, a border village in Kalaroa upazila Thursday morning.

BDR sources said, BSF pushed-in 11 Bengali speaking Indian nationals from Sultanpurshal beel (water body) in Kalaroa upazila at about 4 am.

BDR members caught them as soon they were pushed into Bangladesh territory. BDR instantly pushed back them through Hijald border at about 5 am.

BSF assembled them at Bithari border in India. From where BSF pushed them into Bangladesh territory.

On contact, 41 Rifles Battalion Operations Officer Major Kamrul Hasan confirmed the report.



PHOTO: STAR

A Tk six-lakh project for protecting a road from Battalion area to Sathbidyapara in Khagrachhari Sadar upazila proves a complete failure only six months into its implementation by the Chittagong Hill Tracts Development Board.

Vow to protect rights of girl children

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

It was a unique event for the people of Ellarchar, a remote village in Sadar upazila, where over 500 people of all walks of life vowed to protect rights of girl children yesterday.

A mass gathering on 'Creating Mass Awareness to Protect Rights of Girl Children' was jointly organised by a local NGO, Bangladesh Vision, a Khulna-based NGO Swift Network Khulna and Steps Towards Development, Dhaka. It was held at Ellarchar Bazar with Alhaj Sajjad Hossain in the chair.

Speakers stressed on providing equal opportunity for girl children in order to ensure their rights.

Girl children start facing discrimination soon after their birth and continue to facing discrimination throughout their life, they said. They called on both the government and the NGOs and civil society members to work together to establish their rights.

Girl children are still facing discrimination and there are various forms of violence in society although every child has equal rights, they said.

As repression on girl children starts within the family it should be resisted by changing attitude of the family members, they said.

They called upon all irrespective of male and female members of the family to come forward to resist domestic violence against girl children.

The girl children are also deprived of proper education and the main reason behind large scale dropouts of girls is early marriage, they said.

They called on all to work together to help girl children become self-reliant. Girl children should be given equal opportunities to make them self-reliant, they said adding, women can do many important jobs if they are given equal opportunities.

They called on all to treat boys and girls equally for overall development of the nation. They also called on media to highlight the positive issues relating to rights of women.

Among others, Ruhul Amin, Maulana Alau Karim, Abdul Gaffar and Bangladesh Vision director Aparesh Pal addressed.

Mongla port official suspended for graft

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

The Harbour Master of Mongla Port Authority (MPA) has been asked not to leave Khulna without prior permission as he was placed under suspension on charge of corruption.

The suspension order was issued on October 3 by chairman of Mongla Port Authority Ashraf Mohammad Iqbal.

Harbour Master Capt Shariful Ahsan received the suspension order on Thursday.

He has been replaced by the Chief Security Officer Lt Commander Kazi Shah Alam of MPA.

When asked, MPA Member (operation) Lutfur Rahman said Capt. Shariful Ahsan realised a huge amount of graft from shipping agent Messers Kamrul Enterprise in Khulna to salvage a sunken vessel from the port channel.

The shipping agent got the work order through tender to salvage foreign vessel MV Oceanways that sank in the outer anchorage of the port channel in 1999.

Lutfur Rahman further said that apart from receiving graft, the Harbour Master also harassed the shipping agent by creating obstruction in the salvage work.

2 fugitive convicts held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

In July, Messers Kamrul Enterprise submitted a complaint to the MPA chairman bringing allegation of corruption against Harbour Master Capt Shariful Ahsan.

The MPA chairman formed a three-member committee to probe the allegation.

The probe committee headed by Member (planning) Md Daud Ali submitted report on September 24, confirming allegation against the Harbour Master.

The decision to suspend him was taken at the 166th general meeting of MPA held on September 25.

Two fugitives, convicted in an abduction case, were sent to jail yesterday following their arrest from Ghoshbari in Muktagachha upazila on Wednesday night.

The arrestees are Laef Miah, 48, and Suruj, 52, of village Ghoshbari in the upazila.

Acting on a tip off, a police team arrested the convicts from Ghoshbari, said Officer-in-Charge of Muktagachha Police Station Md Asaduzzaman.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Industries
91, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka

Notice
Time Extension for Application for Selection of CIP (Industries) 2008

Date of application from Managing Director/Chief Executives/Proprietors for small, medium and large scale industries/enterprises for selection of CIP (Industries)-2008 has been extended up to 11.10.2007.

The intending applicants are to apply in prescribed form obtainable from the office of the undersigned during office hours from 9.00 am to 3.30 pm.

Applications form should reach the office of undersigned within the office hours on or before 11.10.2007. Loan defaulters need not apply.

For details visit our website www.moind.gov.bd or smef.bd.com

Md. Lutfar Rahman
Assistant Secretary
Adhik (B&B) Section
Phone No. 9552419



PHOTO: FOCUSBANGLA

Eager to observe the Eid with near and dear ones, home-bound people wait in long queues for tickets at Chittagong Railway Station yesterday.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
বাংলাদেশ পাট গবেষণা ইনস্টিটিউট
মানিক মিয়া এ্যাভিনিউ, ঢাকা-১২০৭
ফোন : ৮১২১৯২৭
ফ্যাক্স : ৮১২১৯৩১-২
ই-মেইল : info@bjri.gov.bd
তারিখ: ০২-১০-২০০৭ইং

Invitation for Tender

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Agriculture.
2	Procuring entity name	Director General, BJRI, Dhaka-1207.
3	Procuring entity district	Dhaka.
4	Invitation for	Procurement of Air Cooler/Conditioner for Growth Chamber & PCR Room, Bio-Technology Laboratory of BJRI.
5	Invitation Ref No.	JRI/Procure/81/07/09/
6	Date	02-10-2007.
7	Procurement method	Open tendering method (OTM).
8	Budget and source of funds	GOB.
9	Project/programme name (if applicable)	Production of Jute & Diversified Uses of Jute Products and Its Extension.
10	Tender package No.	G-1(A).
11	Tender package name	Procurement of Air Cooler/Conditioner for Growth Chamber & PCR Room, Bio-Technology Laboratory of BJRI.
12	Tender last selling date	18-10-2007.
13	Tender closing date and time	Date: 22-10-2007 Time: 12.00 noon.
14	Tender opening date and time	Date: 22-10-2007 Time: 12.15pm.
15	Name & address of the office(s)	- Selling tender document (principal) Director (Admn. & Finance) and Procurement and Sale Section, BJRI, Dhaka-1207. - Receiving tender document Board Room, Admn. Building (1st Floor), BJRI, Dhaka. - Opening tender document Board Room, Admn. Building (1st floor), BJRI, Dhaka.
16	Eligibility of tenderer	Tenderer will have legal, financial, professional and technical capacity to deliver the requirements of this tender with 5 (five) years experience & have fulfilled the obligations of all tax requirements.
17	Brief description of goods or works	Procurement of Air Cooler/Conditioner for Growth Chamber & PCR Room, Bio-Technology Laboratory of BJRI.
18	Brief description of related services	Fitting, Fixing & Trial Runs.
19	Price of tender document (Tk)	Tk. 800/- (eight hundred) only.
20	Lot No. Identification of Package	Location Tender amount (Tk) security Completion time in days
20	1 G-1(A)	BJRI, Dhaka-1207 Tk. 40,000/- 90 days
21	Name of official inviting tender	Dr Md Firoze Shah Sikder.
22	Designation of official inviting tender	Director General.
23	Address of official inviting tender	Bangladesh Jute Research Institute, Manik Mia Avenue, Dhaka-1207.
24	Contact details of official inviting tender	Director-in-Charge (A&F), BJRI, Dhaka-1207.
25	Should the submission date of tenders happen to fall on holiday, tenders shall be received and opened at the same time and place on the first subsequent working day.	
26	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept any and reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.	

Director (Admn. & Finance)
Bangladesh Jute Research Institute
Manik Mia Avenue, Dhaka-1207

GD-3451