

Police deployed as BCC sacks 121 illegal staff

All employees recruited by Mayor Sarwar were BNP-Jamaat men or his relatives

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Police have been deployed at Barisal City Corporation (BCC) office to stave off any untoward incident as the BCC authorities handed down termination letters to all the illegally appointed 121 staff, recruited by Mayor Majibor Rahman Sarwar.

Most of the appointees were BNP-Jamaat activists, recruited between August 2003 and December last year, four of them were Sarwar's relatives, sources said.

Sacking of 121 employees at a time will create problem in delivering emergency services to city dwellers, BCC officials said.

Assistant commissioner of Barisal Metropolitan Police Hayatul Islam said no untoward incident took place since Thursday.

Ward commissioner and mayor-in-charge Awlad Hussein Dilu and BCC chief executive officer Mehdi Hassan said majority of the illegally recruited staff who attended office on Thursday were given dismissals letters.

Besides, dismissal letters were also issued to all the 121 staff by post to ensure that they get those.

The mayor-in-charge said

police were deployed on the BCC compound apprehending agitation by the sacked employees.

Talking to this correspondent, some of the sacked employees seeking anonymity said the action was 'inhuman and unjustified'. They said they will go to court for justice.

Mayor Sarwar appointed 124 people from August 2003 to December last year.

Of them, 117 were activists of BNP and its fronts, three Jamaat men and four were his relatives, sources said.

All the appointments were made illegally as there was no sanction from the ministry and the BCC organogram was yet to be approved, the sources said.

Neither any advertisement was made in newspapers, nor any application called or interview taken in the appointments that triggered protests by different quarters after the media published news on the issue.

The local government ministry in a recent order declared void appointments of 121 of them and asked for files on the rest three appointees for further scrutiny.

Sarwar initiated the process of illegal appointments soon after he was elected mayor in March 2003, the sources said.

As the irregularities triggered protests, the mayor sent a proposal on BCC organogram and manpower structure to the local government ministry on June 2004.

Despite protests, illegal appointments continued till December last year. The latest of 14

officials and employees were appointed drivers. BNP activist Abul Bashar was appointed as state officer.

As a last attempt to regularise the jobs, the mayor held a meeting of ward commissioners on March 11 this year. Thirty out of 40 ward commissioners, most of them belonging to BNP, attended the meeting which decided that the jobs would be regularised at the next meeting, scheduled to be held in July. As Sarwar was arrested on May 29, the July meeting could not take any decision on the issue.

The local government ministry on June this year formed a one-member team headed by Barisal additional divisional commissioner ABM Omar Faruk Chowdhury to probe the allegations.

Hussein (conservancy inspector), Patuakhali district JCD leader Nurul Islam (market superintendent), Jubo Dal activist Tarikul Islam (store keeper), Charkawa union Jubo Dal leader Rafikul Islam (law assistant) and Jamaat-e-Islami leader's son Md Salauddin (work assistant) at different times in 2004.

Jatiyatabdabi Olama Dal leader Enayetur Rahman and BNP activists Haider Ali and Abdul Majid were appointed drivers. BNP activist Abul Bashar was appointed as state officer.

Following the incident, I went to Tanore Police Station to file an abduction case but the officer-in-charge created pressure on me for dropping out the names of Zabbar and his associate from the complaint.

"When I introduced myself as a freedom fighter, the OC misbehaved with me and declined to receive my complaint. Later on October 7, Tanore police received my complaint as a GD, not a case," he said.

He urged the police administration and authorities concerned for immediate steps to rescue his abducted minor girl.

Durul Huda, former Rajshahi City Corporation mayor and lawmaker, and Rajshahi divisional commander of Mukti Jodha Command Council, Zogendranath Saran, general secretary of local NGO Anneshan, Abdul Majid, freedom fighter and former chairman of Saranjan union parishad, and Purnima's relatives Dilip Murmu and Sujit Saran were present at the press conference.

When contacted, OC of Tanore Police Station Nurul Amin said they were investigating the matter. He denied to have done any misbehaviour with Shukla.

Doctors said Aman Ali was admitted for treatment of diarrhoea but he was also a MI (Myocardial Infarction) patient and he died from heart disease.

Some patients at SKH claimed that they were not getting IV Fluid (Intravenous Fluid) due to its short supply.

On contact, Dr. Md. Abdul Kader, In-Charge of SKH, told this correspondent that there is no crisis of Oral Saline and other medicines for diarrhoea patients.

The SKH receives 100 to 200 bags of IV fluids a day, which is not sufficient to tackle the rush of patients, a source at the hospital said.

While visiting the SKH, Shariful Alam Khan, a student from Gouripur, said he had to buy three bags of IV fluid and an injection at a cost of Tk 320 for treatment of diarrhoea.

According to sources at the control room at Civil Surgeon's office, 611 people were affected with diarrhoea in the district in last seven days. The figure was 3984 for the month.

The worst affected upazilas are Nandail, Phulbaria, Haluaghata and Muktagacha, the sources added.

Mymensingh Civil Surgeon Dr. SM Shamsul Alam said all measures were taken to check spread of the disease.

Fifty-four medical teams supported by Special Medical Teams are working in affected areas round the clock, he said.

Publicity is being made through leaflets, posters and loud speakers in affected areas informing people about preventive measures and urging them to contact medical teams in case of outbreaks of diarrhoea, the civil surgeon said.

He said the disease broke out due to use of rainwater and lack of sanitation facilities.

Indigenous FF cries for rescue of abducted daughter

RU CORRESPONDENT

Indigenous freedom fighter Shukla Murmu of Satkira CID office urged the authorities concerned to take steps to rescue his abducted daughter.

At a press conference at Rajshahi Metropolitan press club, he alleged that an influential person abducted his daughter Purnima Murmu, 16, on September 29.

Shukla Murmu, a member of Santal community living in Moyenpur village under Tanore upazila of Rajshahi and also a member of Tanore upazila Mukti Jodha command unit, alleged that Tanore police refused to take the case of his daughter's abduction and misbehaved with him.

Abdul Zabbar, son of Mukbul Hossain of the same village, earlier offered for his daughter Purnima good jobs in Dhaka, Shukla said at the press conference.

"On September 29, she [Purnima] went to the local bazar for ironing clothes when Abdul Zabbar and his associates had her accompany them by telling her of good jobs in Dhaka," he said.

"Abdul Zabbar calls me uncle and my daughter went with him in good faith for jobs," he said, adding, "I believe Abdul Zabbar abducted my daughter Purnima as he went into hiding after the incident."

"Following the incident, I went to Tanore Police Station to file an abduction case but the officer-in-charge created pressure on me for dropping out the names of Zabbar and his associate from the complaint."

"When I introduced myself as a freedom fighter, the OC misbehaved with me and declined to receive my complaint. Later on October 7, Tanore police received my complaint as a GD, not a case," he said.

He urged the police administration and authorities concerned for immediate steps to rescue his abducted minor girl.

Durul Huda, former Rajshahi City Corporation mayor and lawmaker, and Rajshahi divisional commander of Mukti Jodha Command Council, Zogendranath Saran, general secretary of local NGO Anneshan, Abdul Majid, freedom fighter and former chairman of Saranjan union parishad, and Purnima's relatives Dilip Murmu and Sujit Saran were present at the press conference.

When contacted, OC of Tanore Police Station Nurul Amin said they were investigating the matter. He denied to have done any misbehaviour with Shukla.

Doctors said Aman Ali was admitted for treatment of diarrhoea but he was also a MI (Myocardial Infarction) patient and he died from heart disease.

Some patients at SKH claimed that they were not getting IV Fluid (Intravenous Fluid) due to its short supply.

On contact, Dr. Md. Abdul Kader, In-Charge of SKH, told this correspondent that there is no crisis of Oral Saline and other medicines for diarrhoea patients.

The SKH receives 100 to 200 bags of IV fluids a day, which is not sufficient to tackle the rush of patients, a source at the hospital said.

While visiting the SKH, Shariful Alam Khan, a student from Gouripur, said he had to buy three bags of IV fluid and an injection at a cost of Tk 320 for treatment of diarrhoea.

According to sources at the control room at Civil Surgeon's office, 611 people were affected with diarrhoea in the district in last seven days. The figure was 3984 for the month.

The worst affected upazilas are Nandail, Phulbaria, Haluaghata and Muktagacha, the sources added.

Mymensingh Civil Surgeon Dr. SM Shamsul Alam said all measures were taken to check spread of the disease.

Fifty-four medical teams supported by Special Medical Teams are working in affected areas round the clock, he said.

Publicity is being made through leaflets, posters and loud speakers in affected areas informing people about preventive measures and urging them to contact medical teams in case of outbreaks of diarrhoea, the civil surgeon said.

He said the disease broke out due to use of rainwater and lack of sanitation facilities.

The demands include issuance of appointment letters, bonus, wages equal to workers of other textile mills and two days' casual leave a month.

The workers went on an indefinite strike on Tuesday to press the demands.

State-owned Kokil Textile Mill remained closed for long after incurring loss every year.

He said the disease broke out due to use of rainwater and lack of sanitation facilities.

The demands include issuance of appointment letters, bonus, wages equal to workers of other textile mills and two days' casual leave a month.

The workers went on an indefinite strike on Tuesday to press the demands.

State-owned Kokil Textile Mill remained closed for long after incurring loss every year.

He said the disease broke out due to use of rainwater and lack of sanitation facilities.

The demands include issuance of appointment letters, bonus, wages equal to workers of other textile mills and two days' casual leave a month.

The workers went on an indefinite strike on Tuesday to press the demands.

State-owned Kokil Textile Mill remained closed for long after incurring loss every year.

He said the disease broke out due to use of rainwater and lack of sanitation facilities.

The demands include issuance of appointment letters, bonus, wages equal to workers of other textile mills and two days' casual leave a month.

The workers went on an indefinite strike on Tuesday to press the demands.

State-owned Kokil Textile Mill remained closed for long after incurring loss every year.

He said the disease broke out due to use of rainwater and lack of sanitation facilities.

The demands include issuance of appointment letters, bonus, wages equal to workers of other textile mills and two days' casual leave a month.

The workers went on an indefinite strike on Tuesday to press the demands.

State-owned Kokil Textile Mill remained closed for long after incurring loss every year.

He said the disease broke out due to use of rainwater and lack of sanitation facilities.

The demands include issuance of appointment letters, bonus, wages equal to workers of other textile mills and two days' casual leave a month.

The workers went on an indefinite strike on Tuesday to press the demands.

State-owned Kokil Textile Mill remained closed for long after incurring loss every year.

He said the disease broke out due to use of rainwater and lack of sanitation facilities.

The demands include issuance of appointment letters, bonus, wages equal to workers of other textile mills and two days' casual leave a month.

The workers went on an indefinite strike on Tuesday to press the demands.

State-owned Kokil Textile Mill remained closed for long after incurring loss every year.

He said the disease broke out due to use of rainwater and lack of sanitation facilities.

The demands include issuance of appointment letters, bonus, wages equal to workers of other textile mills and two days' casual leave a month.

The workers went on an indefinite strike on Tuesday to press the demands.

State-owned Kokil Textile Mill remained closed for long after incurring loss every year.

He said the disease broke out due to use of rainwater and lack of sanitation facilities.

The demands include issuance of appointment letters, bonus, wages equal to workers of other textile mills and two days' casual leave a month.

The workers went on an indefinite strike on Tuesday to press the demands.

State-owned Kokil Textile Mill remained closed for long after incurring loss every year.

He said the disease broke out due to use of rainwater and lack of sanitation facilities.

The demands include issuance of appointment letters, bonus, wages equal to workers of other textile mills and two days' casual leave a month.

The workers went on an indefinite strike on Tuesday to press the demands.

State-owned Kokil Textile Mill remained closed for long after incurring loss every year.

He said the disease broke out due to use of rainwater and lack of sanitation facilities.

The demands include issuance of appointment letters, bonus, wages equal to workers of other textile mills and two days' casual leave a month.

The workers went on an indefinite strike on Tuesday to press the demands.

State-owned Kokil Textile Mill remained closed for long after incurring loss every year.

He said the disease broke out due to use of rainwater and lack of sanitation facilities.

The demands include issuance of appointment letters, bonus, wages equal to workers of other textile mills and two days' casual leave a month.

The workers went on an indefinite strike on Tuesday to press the demands.

State-owned Kokil Textile Mill remained closed for long after incurring loss every year.

He said the disease broke out due to use of rainwater and lack of sanitation facilities.

The demands include issuance of appointment letters, bonus, wages equal to workers of other textile mills and two days' casual leave a month.

The workers went on an indefinite strike on Tuesday to press the demands.

State-owned Kokil Textile Mill remained closed for long after incurring loss every year.

He said the disease broke out due to use of rainwater and lack of sanitation facilities.

The demands include issuance of appointment letters, bonus, wages equal to workers of other textile mills and two days' casual leave a month.

The workers went on an indefinite strike on Tuesday to press the demands.

State-owned Kokil Textile Mill remained closed for long after incurring loss every year.

He said the disease broke out due to use of rainwater and lack of sanitation facilities.

The demands include issuance of appointment letters, bonus, wages equal to workers of other textile mills and two days' casual leave a month.

The workers went on an indefinite strike on Tuesday to press the demands.

State-owned Kokil Textile Mill remained closed for long after incurring loss every year.

He said the disease broke out due to use of rainwater and lack of sanitation facilities.

The demands include issuance of appointment letters, bonus