

TK 1.72 CRORE GRAFT CASES
2 officials relieved of charges after admitting fault to Truth Commission

HASIBUR RAHMAN BILU, Bogra

An executive engineer of LGED and a retired superintending engineer of Roads and Highways Department (RHD) got relieved of two corruption cases involving Tk 1.72 crore as they admitted their guilt to the Truth Commission and deposited Tk 22 lakh as per its directive.

The two persons are LGED Executive Engineer Sarder Anisur Rahman Rana and retired superintending engineer of RHD Habibur Rahman.

Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) on May 13 last year filed two cases with Shibganj Police Station accusing of embezzling Tk over 1.72 crore by preparing false projects in collaboration with

former prime minister Khaleda Zia's assignment officer Dr Feroz Mahmud Iqbal during the BNP-led four-party rule.

After the cases were filed, Sarder Anisur Rahman Rana and Habibur Rahman filed appeals with the Truth Commission seeking acquittal from the cases.

The Commission received Tk 20 lakh from Anisur Rahman Rana and Tk two lakh from Habibur Rahman and acquitted them of the allegations. The Commission also acquitted them of accusations of earning illegal wealth.

Rangpur LGED training unit Executive Engineer Rana said over cell phone on Monday that the Truth Commission directed him to deposit Tk 20 lakh to the government exchequer. He deposited the money and he

was acquitted of the two corruption cases in mid-December last year.

The accusation of earning illegal wealth worth about Tk one crore against him, which the ACC was investigating, has also been suspended.

Former SE of RHD Bogra Circle Habibur Rahman got acquitted of the charges against him by depositing Tk 2 lakh in the government exchequer. Habibur Rahman said the investigation into the allegation against him of earning illegal wealth worth about Tk 25 lakh has also been suspended. Habibur Rahman spent Tk 2.20 lakh more than proposed expenditure in a few road development projects under the Circle during the four-party alliance rule.

Habibur Rahman admitted the allegations and said he

gave the extra money to the ruling party contractors under the pressure of the BNP leaders.

ACC Assistant Director Abdul Baset, who investigated the two cases, said alongside preparing false projects Dr Feroz Mahmud Iqbal got some infrastructures constructed at his private land at his village home Aliahat under Shibganj upazila using government money.

Fuel worth Tk 73 thousand was bought for a car of a school established after the name of Dr Feroz Mahmud's mother between June 2005 and November 2006, Baset said. The case also alleged that Anisur Rahman Rana while working as the executive engineer of Bogra gave Tk 1.33 crore in cash to Dr Feroz Mahmud Iqbal.

3 indigenous leaders freed on ransom

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban

Kidnappers set free three indigenous leaders after taking ransom of Tk 3 lakh Sunday night.

Freed leaders are Ramthan Karbari, Lal Mun Karbari and Beng Tanchangya, security sources said.

Kidnappers introducing themselves as members of Democratic Party of Arakan (DPA), a militant group of Myanmar, abducted the three persons from Ronin Para in Roangchhari upazila on December 21 last year with a demand for payment of ransom of the aforesaid amount, family sources said. They were freed after a month long dialogue with kidnapers, they said.

Fleeing 'top criminal' held at Faridpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested an absconding 'top criminal' of the district named Moly Bose, 40, from Tepakhola cattle market in the town Sunday night, Rab said.

Halling from Salia village under Saltha upazila, Moly started selling heroin and entered the crime world about a decade ago. He is accused in many criminal cases for murder, dacoity, toll collection, arms trade, creating anarchy and under explosive acts. In one of the cases he was sentenced to three years' imprisonment. After the court verdict he fled to India.

During interrogation, he revealed important information about his crime world, Rab said. Later, the criminal was handed over to Kotwali Police Station yesterday noon.



PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

Ansars assemble at Kalapara High School ground in Patuakhali district yesterday to get briefing about their duties during the January 22 upazila elections.

8 upazila polls runners face criminal charges in Rajshahi

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

About eight persons who are facing criminal charges are contesting the upcoming upazila elections for chairmanship in Rajshahi district.

One of the candidates was convicted in a criminal case while two others are accused of torturing their wives and demanding dowry from in-laws.

These were revealed from the candidates' affidavits submitted to the Election Commission.

Bagha upazila chairman candidate Abdul Gani Mandol mentioned that he was convicted in a misappropriation case. He was sentenced to suffer six months 15 days imprisonment with fine of Tk 5,000.

Golam Rabbani, Tanore Awami League (AL) president resigned from chairmanship of Pachondor Union Parishad for taking part in the election race for chairmanship in Tanore upazila.

He mentioned in his affidavit that he is accused in two cases, one filed under Women

and Children Repression Prevention Act for torturing his wife and another under Muslim Family Law for marrying without permission from first wife and divorcing the latter without paying dues (denmohor).

Rabbani's wife Monwara Khatun who is also contesting for chairmanship post told newsmen that she is contesting not to win, but to defeat Rabbani.

However, Rabbani said he married for second time for a child as he has no child from his first wife to whom he married in 1986.

Charghat upazila BNP president and chairman candidate Abu Sayeed Chand is accused in three cases for terrorist activities and cheating.

Puthia upazila chairman candidate and central vice president of Bangladesh Chhatra League Ahsanul Haque Masud mentioned that he is accused in five criminal cases which are now being tried at various courts.

Durgapur upazila BNP president and chairman candidate Ashraf Kabir said

in his affidavit that he is accused in three cases including one for murder and all the cases are now under trial.

Talpur Zia Parishad president M Golam Dastgir, also Godagari upazila chairman candidate, is accused in a dowry case filed by his ex-wife Angura Begum.

Godagari upazila chairman candidate AKM Ataur Rahman who is also former vice president of district AL is accused in a criminal case lodged with a Rajshahi court in 2007.

Two criminal cases are under trial against Tanore upazila chairman candidate and upazila AL general secretary Abdullah Al Mamun while his rival BNP's upazila chairman candidate Emran Ali Mollah is facing three criminal charges.

Paba upazila chairman candidate Abdur Rouf Nannu is also accused in a criminal case filed in 2004.

Besides, several other chairman candidates in different upazilas were either acquitted or relieved of criminal charges previously.



PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH/STAR

Bangladesh Rifles patrolling on Chuadanga border, left, and lawmaker Iqbalur Rahim addressing a motivational programme on the premises of bordering Askorpur Union Parishad office in Dinajpur district yesterday as the government has taken measures to check smuggling of fertiliser and diesel.

3 killed in 3 days in Rangpur
Mugging, robbery on the rise

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

Three people were killed in last three days while about 65 incidents of snatching and robbery occurred in the last two weeks in the district.

Police yesterday recovered the body of hawker Shahidur Rahman, 35, of Bhabanipur in Rajendrapur union in Rangpur Sadar upazila from under Ghagot bridge across Rangpur-Baderganj road. Criminals killed him by slitting throat

after looting all his belongings on Sunday night.

On Saturday night police recovered the body of forest department employee Sekender, 33, from a paddy field near Rangpur-Dinajpur highway in Taraganj upazila. Criminals robbed him before killing.

On Friday morning, police recovered the body of Akbar Ali, 40, from a paddy field under Satdargah in Pirgachha upazila.

Muggers robbed a cell phone and Tk 2,000 from Atiar Hosen at Satdargah on

Rangpur-Pawtana road the same night.

Despite complaints of frequent muggings, police failed to take any action, locals said, adding that at least 65 incidents of snatching occurred at different spots during the last two weeks.

Residents of Rangpur town alleged that Kotwali Police Station Second Officer Humayun Kabir released at least 15 criminals from the police station although people caught them red-handed.

Restore '72 constitution, punish war criminals

FFs, civil society members, students demand in Rajshahi

RU CORRESPONDENT

Freedom fighters, civil society members and students of different educational institutions at a meeting yesterday called for restoring the constitution of 1972 and vowed to continue their movement for trial of the war criminals.

They urged the government for imposing ban on Jamaat-Shibir politics.

Speakers at the meeting also demanded immediate execution of the verdict of Bangabandhu murder case and punishment to killers of four national leaders.

The meeting, organised by Ekatturer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee of Rajshahi unit, was held to observe the 17th founding anniversary of the committee.

Rajshahi City Corporation (RCC) Mayor AHM Khairuzzaman Liton was present as the chief guest while committee president language veteran Abul Hossain presided.

Minhazur Rahman Shuvo, a class seven student who spoke at the meeting, demanded inclusion of real history of Liberation War in school books and punishment to those who distorted the history.

Mayor Liton urged the government to ensure security of those who filed cases against war criminals and collaborators of 1971.

He also demanded trial of the war criminals in the coun-

try under the existing laws.

The speakers demanded trial of war criminals for the sake of justice, consolidating democracy and upholding the spirit of liberation war.

Freedom fighters said that war criminals and anti-liberation forces are involved in a deep-rooted conspiracy against the country and freedom fighters since their defeat in the national election.

Nirmul committee leaders expressed their determination to continue the agitation until the war criminals are tried and punished.

Former Rajshahi University vice chancellor Prof Saidu Rahman Khan, Prof Mizan Uddin, language veteran Golam Arif Tipu, Musharraf Hossain, Prof Fazlul Haque, engineer Tajul Islam, cultural activists Proshanto Shaha, Sammlito Sangskritik Jote general secretary Dr Sayed Shafiqul Alam, freedom fighter Shahazam Ali Borzahan, Farhad Ali Mia, Awami League vice president Khurshid Bin-Kamal, joint secretary Shafiqul Rahman Badsha, Communist Party of Bangladesh city president Abul Kalam Azad, Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal city secretary Abdullah-Al-Masud Shibly, Mohila Parishad general secretary Kolpona Roy, Prof Sajjadur Rahman and others addressed.

The meeting was rounded up with showing of a film on war crimes of 1971.

6 BNP leaders expelled from party

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Pabna district unit of BNP expelled five BNP leaders of Ishwardi and Chatmohar upazilas for violating party discipline, party sources said.

They are Ishwardi upazila BNP organising secretary Md Torab Ali Biswas, also a upazila chairman candidate, Chatmohar upazila unit BNP leader Mohammed Ali, also another upazila chairman

candidate, Asaduzzaman Arshad and Harun Biswas, both union level party leaders and Ishwardi upazila unit president of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) Rafiqul Islam Rafi.

This was confirmed from two press releases issued here separately by Pabna district BNP secretary Habibur Rahman Tota and Pabna district Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal secretary Siddiqui Rahman on Sunday.

Table with 25 rows and 4 columns: Ministry/Division, Agency, Procuring entity name, Procuring entity code, Procuring entity district, Invitation for, Invitation for tenders Ref No., Date, Procurement method, Budget and source of funds, Development partners (if applicable), Project/programme code, Project/programme name, Tender package No., Tender package name, Tender publication date, Tender selling date, Tender closing date and time, Tender opening date and time, Name & address of the office, Selling tender document (principal), Selling tender document (other), Receiving tender document, Opening tender document, Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting, Eligibility of tenderer, Brief description of goods or works, Brief description of related services, Price of tender document (BDT), Lot, Identification of lot, Location of delivery, Tender security amount in Tk, Completion time in weeks/days, Validity of tender & tender security, Name of official inviting tender, Designation of official inviting tender, Address of official inviting tender, Contact details of official inviting, Special instruction.

Advertisement for Bangladesh Telematics Commission (BTC) regarding the launch of VoIP services. It includes the commission's name, address, and details about the service launch.