

Sheer negligence

Funds for poor disabled, elderly returned just for failing to list them

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

About Tk 16 lakh government allowances for the poor disabled and elderly people in Kishoreganj upazila were returned allegedly due to lack of coordination between the Social Welfare Department and Union Parishad (UP) chairman of the upazila.

Upazila social welfare office sources blamed the UP chairman for not finalising the lists of prospective beneficiaries in time while the latter said the social welfare office failed to coordinate the matter.

In the current 2008-2009 FY also, a large amount of money allocated for the poor, disabled and elderly people of the upazila has remained undistributed and it faces the same fate as the two previous terms as the current fiscal year nears its end, sources said.

Tk 3,09,600 was allocated for disbursement among 129 prospective beneficiaries in 2006-2007 fiscal year (FY), said sources at Kishoreganj Upazila Social Welfare Office.

In FY 2007-2008, Tk 5,38,560 was allocated for 204 poor disabled people.

The government also allocated Tk 7,02,240 for disbursement among 266 poor elderly people for the FY 2007-2008.

During the two previous fiscal years, a total of Tk 15,50,400 meant for poor disabled and elderly people was returned from Kishoreganj upazila.

However, the fund allocated for poor elderly people in the upazila in FY 2006-2007 was disbursed.

According to government rules framed a couple of years ago, the fund allocated for any purpose should be disbursed within the same fiscal year otherwise it would be returned.

When asked, Kishoreganj upazila acting Social Welfare Officer Sadekur Rahman Mondol said the funds were returned as the UP chairman concerned failed to finalise the lists of beneficiaries in time.

On behalf of the upazila's UP chairmen, Magura UP chairman Sohrab Hossain said the social welfare office concerned did not coordinate the work timely.

Deprived of the allowances for a long time, around 600 poor disabled and elderly people in the upazila are passing their days amid utter misery.

SNIPPETS

Deadline to police

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

People of Mithipur yesterday gave the officer-in-charge of Pirganj Police Station a two-day ultimatum to arrest the killers of two children. Earlier, Pirganj police recovered the bodies of the two children from a pond at Madarganj of Mithipur union under Pirganj upazila on Thursday. Kabir, 11, son of Shafiqan Miah and Subash, 10, son of Gonesh of the adjoining village Hasanpur were allegedly killed when they went to eat mango from the tree of a local influential person.

BSF hands over two bodies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Indian BSF yesterday handed over bodies of two Bangladeshi nationals, who went missing on Wednesday, to the BDR. Shafiqul Islam, 25, and Rubel Ahmed, 20, hailing from village Lakma under Tahirkhali upazila of Sunamganj district, crossed border while collecting abandoned coal, sources said, adding they failed to return as they fell into a ditch there. The BSF recovered the bodies and handed those over to BDR yesterday. The BDR then handed the bodies to their families through police.

Five Indians pushed back

A CORRESPONDENT, Meherpur

BDR on Friday night pushed five Bengali speaking Indian nationals back into their territory through a border point in the district. Subedar Omar Faruk, Company Commander of Mujibnagar BDR BOP said Indian BSF at Hridaypur outpost under Nadia district had pushed them into Bangladesh territory at dawn on Thursday. All the five Indian nationals who were arrested by Indian police from Azmeen Sharif area were earlier jailed for one month.

48 Rohingyas pushed back

A CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

BDR jawans of 17 Rifles Battalion at Cox's Bazar Sadar Thursday night pushed back 48 Rohingyas to Myanmar through Ukhia border. BDR sources said, the Rohingyas crossed the Naf River and intruded into Teknaf from Myanmar in the morning on the day. Then they took a passenger bus to reach Cox's Bazar. They were held at Thaiongkhali and Palongkhali on Cox's Bazar-Teknaf highway. The Rohingyas included 21 children and 15 women.

Elderly man beaten to death

A CORRESPONDENT, Comilla

An elderly man was beaten to death at village Shreemodee in Homna upazila yesterday. A gang of hired goons attacked Abdul Malek, 60, in the morning. They beat him severely leaving him dead on the spot. A murder case was lodged with Homna Police Station accusing Malek's nephew Mojibur Rahman and his wife Shakila Begum. All the members of Mojibur family went into hiding after the incident. Police suspected the murder was a sequel to feud over a land.

Fresh charge sheet

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

A fresh charge sheet in the Tarak Das murder case, pressing charges against five people, was submitted yesterday to the additional chief judicial magistrate's court. The accused are Mozammel Haque Sheikh, Tojammel Haque Sheikh, Masud Sheikh, Khasru Sheikh and Mahmudul Sheikh, all sons of Moksed Ali Sheikh of village Dohar in Tala upazila. On September 21 last year, the court rejected the charge sheet submitted by the then IO after the complainant filed a petition for fresh charge sheet. Tarak Chandra Das, 75, of village Dohar in Tala upazila, a retired village police was slaughtered on December 20 night in 2007 at the verandah of his house. He had a land dispute with Moksed Ali Sheikh of the same village.

Internet link snapped

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban

Internet and trunk links with three hill districts of Bandarban, Rangamati and Khagrachari remained cut off with capital city and other parts of the country since May 3. Journalists and businessmen are facing acute problems as they cannot make urgent calls and send e-mails. Contacted, Swapna Barua, assistant engineer of Bandarban Telecom Division said the situation followed a glitch at Chittagong Microwave Station. "Work is on to resolve the problem but it might take some time," Barua said.



PHOTO STAR
Acid Santrash Nirmul Committee forms a human chain at Amolshid in Zakiganj upazila of Sylhet district yesterday urging people to raise protest against India's move to construct Tipaimukh dam on the Borak in the upstream of Surma and Kushiyara rivers.

HUMAN CHAIN AT AMOLSHID OF ZAKIGANJ

Tipaimukh to become another Farakka

Speakers at discussion express fear

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

People of Zakiganj yesterday formed a human chain at Amolshid in the upazila protesting Indian move to construct a dam on the river Borak in Tipaimukh in the Indian state of Manipur.

Acid Santrash Nirmul Committee, Sylhet, staged the protest against the controversial dam project, 100-km upstream of eastern border of Sylhet district.

The river Borak bifurcated into two flows and entered Bangladesh as Surma and Kushiyara through Zakiganj border.

Zakiganj Pourasava (municipality) Mayor Iqbal Ahmed and Sylhet City Corporation Councillor Koyes Lodi also joined the human chain programme.

On Friday night, Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers' Association (BELA) organised a discussion in Sylhet city in observance of the World Environment Day.

Chaired by Sushasaner Janya Nagarik Sylhet chapter General Secretary Faruque Mahmud Chowdhury, the speakers raised voice against the proposed Tipaimukh dam project.

Sylhet Divisional Commissioner Zafar Ahmed Khan, TIB's Conscious Citizens' Committee Convenor EU Shahidul Islam, Dr Sudhamoy Majumder, Advocate Syed Ashraf Hossain, Daily Uttar-Purbo Editor Aziz Ahmed Selim, Shahjalal University teachers Awal Biswas and Farzana Raihan, Press Club Vice-president Al-Azad, and Coordinator of BELA Sylhet chapter Ayesha Chowdhury were among the discussants.

The speakers said the people of 12 districts in the country's north-eastern region including greater Sylhet and Mymensingh and those of the Indian states of Assam and Manipur should raise their voice against the controversial dam project.

He said the Indian government is going ahead with the controversial project ignoring protests in the Manipur state.

Once the project is implemented, it will create havoc in the whole region, the speakers cautioned, urging the democratic and patriotic forces to unite against the Indian move to construct the proposed dam on the river Borak.

The Indian government initiated the project about a decade ago, but could not go ahead in the face of widespread agitation from its own people at times. Even some 25 peoples' forums like that of Tipaimukh Dam Resistance Committee have been formed there to protest the move.

With reference to some experts' opinion, the discussion meeting was told that implementation of the dam project mainly aimed at producing electricity would cause a disastrous situation in the Meghna basin, especially the greater Sylhet and Mymensingh region, during the dry season due to withdrawal of water in the upper stream.

Also, they said, there are apprehensions of recurrent flooding during the monsoon due to possible release of water.

It will be another Farakka, the speakers said, urging the people to resist the move.

Two key-note papers—one on 'Tipaimukh dam: The Possible Disaster' and the other on 'climate change' were presented at the discussion by Prof Zahir Bin Alam of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST) and Zahrat Rishat of BELA.

Divisional Commissioner Zafar Ahmed Khan said the Tipaimukh dam project issue should be resolved internationally. It would not only cause disaster in Sylhet or in Bangladesh but also in the Indian states of Manipur, Mizoram and Assam, he said.

He said the Indian government is going ahead with the controversial project ignoring protests in the Manipur state.

Bangladesh Bank

Common Services Department
Head Office
Dhaka

Website: www.bangladesh-bank.org

Invitation for Tender

Sealed tenders are invited from internationally reputed scanning machine manufacturers, suppliers or their agents for supply, installation, testing & commissioning of 8 (eight) sets X-Ray Baggage/Luggage Scanning Machine with on line UPS including after sale services at Bangladesh Bank Branch Offices. Necessary informations are given below:

1. Source of funds	Bangladesh Bank.
2. Invitation for tender no.	CSD(MES):5/3/2009-24 Date: 31/05/2009
3. Eligibility of tenderers	Tenderers from all countries except Israel having 5 (five) years overall business experience and also having experience in supply and installation of at least 2 (two) numbers of similar machine in any govt/semi-govt/autonomous organisation or registered companies in Bangladesh during last 3 (three) years. Other required eligibility and qualification criteria are mentioned in the tender documents (ITT & TDS).
4. Time for completion of delivery	4 (four) months from the date of contract signing.
5. Price of tender document	Tk. 3,000/- (three thousand) only.
6. Amount of tender security	Tk. 5,00,000/- (five lac) only.
7. Name & address of the office selling tender document	Common Services Department (CR&D Section at 1st floor of 2nd Annex Building), Bangladesh Bank, Head Office, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh.
8. Name & address of the office receiving tenders	Common Services Department (Mechanical Engineering Section at 6th floor of 30-storey building), Bangladesh Bank, Head Office, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh.
9. Name & address of the office opening tenders	Common Services Department (Mechanical Engineering Section at 6th floor of 30-storey building), Bangladesh Bank, Head Office, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh.
10. Last date & time for selling tender documents	28-06-2009 up to normal office hours.
11. Last date & time for submission tenders	29-06-2009 on or before 2.00pm.
12. Date & time for tender opening	29-06-2009 at 2.15pm (Tenderers or their authorised representatives are allowed to attend the tender opening).
13. Brief description of the goods and services	Supply, installation, testing & commissioning of 8 (eight) sets X-Ray Baggage/Luggage Scanning Machine (Tunnel Dimension minimum 755mm (W) X 555mm (H) with 3KVA on line UPS on TURN-KEY job basis including after sale services (e.g. trouble shooting, maintenance and servicing) at Chittagong, Khulna, Rajshahi, Bogra, Sylhet, Barisal, Rangpur, Sadarghat branch offices of Bangladesh Bank.

Bangladesh Bank reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

The invitation for tender is available at the website mentioned above.

DPP: 48/09-

Date: 01-06-09

GD-2842

Md Ahsan Ullah
General Manager
Phone: 7120959

GD-2881

4 AILA-HIT UPAZILAS OF KHULNA Study of 50,000 students stalled, cyclone victims still need succour

STAFF CORRESPONDENT,
Khulna

Study of over 50,000 students

is being hampered as the May 25 cyclone Aila followed by tidal surges damaged 487 academic institutions in four upazilas of Khulna district.

Meanwhile, mismanagement in relief distribution coupled with lack of materials adds to the sufferings of cyclone victims, many of them starving.

As many as 194 institutions have been damaged in Koira upazila while the number is 140 in Paikgachha, 78 in Batiaghata and 75 in Dakope upazila under the district.

Fifteen of them are colleges, 53 madrasas, 113 high schools and the others are government and non-government primary schools.

In the four upazilas, most of the 198 unharmed institutions have been made temporary shelters for the people who have turned homeless by the cyclone and tidal surges.

Meanwhile, very little relief materials have reached Sharankhola and Morrelganj upazilas of Bagerhat district, sources said.

Seized dates disappear

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

A large quantity of dates, which was seized as evidence on October 8 in 2007, have gone 'missing' from Bogra Sadar Police Station.

After seizure of about 170 kg 'low quality' dates worth about Tk 1,77,000 from Joyati Falbander in Bogra town during an anti-adulteration drive, Sanitary Inspector of district health department Md Shah Ali Khan filed a case with Sadar Police Station against Mizanur Rahman Manju, police and court sources said.

Asked about the seized dates by Senior Judicial Magistrate Md Ziaur Rahman

during trial of the case, police informed the court that the seized dates were destroyed on the premises of Bogra Police Lines following a court order.

In a reply to a court order to show supporting legal papers, Sadar Police Station Assistant Sub-Inspector Md Abdul Aziz Mondal on June 3 submitted a report saying that there were no documents regarding destruction of the seized dates.

Former OC of Bogra Sadar Police Station, Hasan Shamim Iqbal told The Daily Star over cell phone yesterday that the dates were buried following a court order during his period but somehow the documents were 'misplaced'.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Secondary Education Quality and Access Enhancement Project (SEQAEP)
Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education
Bangladesh, Dhaka

Memo No-SEQAEP/Core-Trainer/18/08/120

Date: 2 June 2009

Walk in Interview

English and Mathematics Core-Trainer

Secondary Education Quality and Access Enhancement Project (SEQAEP) is going to appoint 10-15 Core-Trainer(s) for English & Mathematics each on contractual basis under the project. Qualifications, experience(s) and others requirement of the applicants are as follows.

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