

Oli blamed

FROM PAGE 1
Benapole-Jessore-Kanchpur-Dhaka-Sylhet and Tamabil, and AH2 passing through Banglambanda-Hatikamrul-Dhaka-Kanchpur-Sylhet and Tamabil. Both international sea ports -- Chittagong and Mongla -- are connected to AH1 and AH2 by AH41, so the ports may also serve the regional trade needs.

Bangladesh initially offered four entry/exit points for AH including two at the north-east corner of the country, when UN-ESCAP in 1993 asked member countries to indicate which roads of their national networks could become parts of the network.

One of the two entry/exit points in the north-east of the country was at Tamabil and the other was at Astagram, both of which are in Sylhet. The route through Astagram was much shorter for linking Tamu of Myanmar with the AH network through Imphal, the capital city of the Indian state of Manipur. Tamu is a border point between India and Myanmar, which the latter offered for AH connection.

But in 1995 the then communications minister Oli Ahmed scrapped the proposed route through Astagram, and retained only the route through Tamabil in the north-east. The Tamabil route is about 600 kilometres to Imphal from Sylhet. It was a suicidal decision for Bangladesh," said Dr M Rahmatullah, former director (transport) of UN-ESCAP.

"There was no reason for choosing this route, since the other route through Astagram could have been much shorter with a distance of only around 200 kilometres."

Showing maps and documents, the transport expert said the only route now chosen in the north-east passes through a mountainous region across four Indian states, through which travel is time consuming and costly.

Sources said the Tamabil exit/entry point is neither suitable for India and Myanmar, nor for Bangladesh. When countries submitted their route proposals in response to UN-ESCAP's request, India proposed a route through Karimganj of Assam into Bangladesh via Astagram.

An independent study of UN-ESCAP also found the Astagram route as the most suitable. "But the then Bangladesh authorities were unable to understand it," said Rahmatullah, now transport policy adviser for the Transport Sector Management Reform (TSMR) Programme of the Bangladesh Planning Commission.

He said the only reason for not choosing the more viable route through Astagram, was the then government's bias against anything proposed by India.

DMCH finds

FROM PAGE 1
According to the hospital chart, a patient gets eight slices of bread with one boiled egg, one banana, 30 grams of sugar and two ounce of jelly at breakfast, 225gm rice, 95gm fish or meat, 45gm pulse, 200gm vegetables and a banana at lunch, and 225gm rice, two eggs, 40gm pulse, 200gm vegetables and a banana at dinner.

The cost of a day's meal should be Tk 75 as per the government directives.

Patients say less than 150gm coarse rice, three or four pieces of bread, less than 35gm fish or meat, substantial jelly and very small and green bananas were supplied.

As per the rule patients should get mutton once a week, but sources say it was not provided in last one year.

Employees working at DMCH kitchen say contractors supply food items very less than the actual demand, but they have to manage with that.

Speaking anonymously, a former contractor said, "We have to bribe the authorities, class three and four employees, officials of the account section and the dietitian to get the order and our bills."

"After all those sectional bribes, we had to supply less than the actual weight and also substandard food," added the former contractor, who no longer supplies food after suffering huge loss.

On last Thursday the new DMCH director visited the hospital kitchen and caught red-handed contractor Tota Mia for supplying 98kg decomposed punjash fish instead of 205kg katala.

He caught another supplier Md Babul with 230kg coarse rice he brought instead of 405kg medium quality fine rice.

Though the authorities prepare meal for 2,000 to 2,300 indoor patients, a large num-

ber of them could not eat the food, say hospital sources.

The deputy director (DD) of the hospital is responsible to ensure nutritional diet for the patients, but they never do anything, sources alleged.

Contacted, DD Dr Qazi Enamul Kabir claimed, "The authorities always provide quality and nutritious food. Earlier we provided two smaller pieces of fish or meat. Now we provide one piece of fish which is bigger."

Earlier, mobile courts found rotten and expired food and adulterated milk at the kitchen. Besides, they also found a gravely unhygienic environment at the DMCH kitchen.

According to a survey report of Transparency International Bangladesh in October 2006, food items worth Tk 31,680 were wasted a day as patients could not eat those.

The situation remained unchanged until recently as the authorities always kept a blind eye to all sorts of anomalies.

Govt mulling

FROM PAGE 1
import of gas and electricity," the state minister said in his scripted answers.

In reply to another question, Tuku said there is a daily shortage of about 250 million cubic feet gas in the country.

The government considers importing gas from neighbouring Myanmar, he said.

In another scripted answer, the state minister said it is considered that electricity can be produced through using air or sea and air areas. Electricity is being produced in Kutubdia on limited scale using air since 2008.

He also told the House that the country has a proven stock of about 6.9 trillion cubic feet gas.

Though the authorities prepare meal for 2,000 to 2,300 indoor patients, a large num-

ber of them could not eat the food, say hospital sources.

The deputy director (DD) of the hospital is responsible to ensure nutritional diet for the patients, but they never do anything, sources alleged.

Contacted, DD Dr Qazi Enamul Kabir claimed, "The authorities always provide quality and nutritious food. Earlier we provided two smaller pieces of fish or meat. Now we provide one piece of fish which is bigger."

Earlier, mobile courts found rotten and expired food and adulterated milk at the kitchen. Besides, they also found a gravely unhygienic environment at the DMCH kitchen.

According to a survey report of Transparency International Bangladesh in October 2006, food items worth Tk 31,680 were wasted a day as patients could not eat those.

The situation remained unchanged until recently as the authorities always kept a blind eye to all sorts of anomalies.

Govt mulling

FROM PAGE 1
import of gas and electricity," the state minister said in his scripted answers.

In reply to another question, Tuku said there is a daily shortage of about 250 million cubic feet gas in the country.

The government considers importing gas from neighbouring Myanmar, he said.

In another scripted answer, the state minister said it is considered that electricity can be produced through using air or sea and air areas. Electricity is being produced in Kutubdia on limited scale using air since 2008.

He also told the House that the country has a proven stock of about 6.9 trillion cubic feet gas.

Though the authorities prepare meal for 2,000 to 2,300 indoor patients, a large num-

ber of them could not eat the food, say hospital sources.

The deputy director (DD) of the hospital is responsible to ensure nutritional diet for the patients, but they never do anything, sources alleged.

Contacted, DD Dr Qazi Enamul Kabir claimed, "The authorities always provide quality and nutritious food. Earlier we provided two smaller pieces of fish or meat. Now we provide one piece of fish which is bigger."

Earlier, mobile courts found rotten and expired food and adulterated milk at the kitchen. Besides, they also found a gravely unhygienic environment at the DMCH kitchen.

According to a survey report of Transparency International Bangladesh in October 2006, food items worth Tk 31,680 were wasted a day as patients could not eat those.

The situation remained unchanged until recently as the authorities always kept a blind eye to all sorts of anomalies.

Govt mulling

FROM PAGE 1
import of gas and electricity," the state minister said in his scripted answers.

In reply to another question, Tuku said there is a daily shortage of about 250 million cubic feet gas in the country.

The government considers importing gas from neighbouring Myanmar, he said.

In another scripted answer, the state minister said it is considered that electricity can be produced through using air or sea and air areas. Electricity is being produced in Kutubdia on limited scale using air since 2008.

He also told the House that the country has a proven stock of about 6.9 trillion cubic feet gas.

Though the authorities prepare meal for 2,000 to 2,300 indoor patients, a large num-

ber of them could not eat the food, say hospital sources.

The deputy director (DD) of the hospital is responsible to ensure nutritional diet for the patients, but they never do anything, sources alleged.

Contacted, DD Dr Qazi Enamul Kabir claimed, "The authorities always provide quality and nutritious food. Earlier we provided two smaller pieces of fish or meat. Now we provide one piece of fish which is bigger."

Earlier, mobile courts found rotten and expired food and adulterated milk at the kitchen. Besides, they also found a gravely unhygienic environment at the DMCH kitchen.

According to a survey report of Transparency International Bangladesh in October 2006, food items worth Tk 31,680 were wasted a day as patients could not eat those.

The situation remained unchanged until recently as the authorities always kept a blind eye to all sorts of anomalies.

Govt mulling

FROM PAGE 1
import of gas and electricity," the state minister said in his scripted answers.

In reply to another question, Tuku said there is a daily shortage of about 250 million cubic feet gas in the country.

The government considers importing gas from neighbouring Myanmar, he said.

In another scripted answer, the state minister said it is considered that electricity can be produced through using air or sea and air areas. Electricity is being produced in Kutubdia on limited scale using air since 2008.

He also told the House that the country has a proven stock of about 6.9 trillion cubic feet gas.

Though the authorities prepare meal for 2,000 to 2,300 indoor patients, a large num-

ber of them could not eat the food, say hospital sources.

The deputy director (DD) of the hospital is responsible to ensure nutritional diet for the patients, but they never do anything, sources alleged.

Contacted, DD Dr Qazi Enamul Kabir claimed, "The authorities always provide quality and nutritious food. Earlier we provided two smaller pieces of fish or meat. Now we provide one piece of fish which is bigger."

Earlier, mobile courts found rotten and expired food and adulterated milk at the kitchen. Besides, they also found a gravely unhygienic environment at the DMCH kitchen.

According to a survey report of Transparency International Bangladesh in October 2006, food items worth Tk 31,680 were wasted a day as patients could not eat those.

The situation remained unchanged until recently as the authorities always kept a blind eye to all sorts of anomalies.

Govt mulling

FROM PAGE 1
import of gas and electricity," the state minister said in his scripted answers.

In reply to another question, Tuku said there is a daily shortage of about 250 million cubic feet gas in the country.

The government considers importing gas from neighbouring Myanmar, he said.

In another scripted answer, the state minister said it is considered that electricity can be produced through using air or sea and air areas. Electricity is being produced in Kutubdia on limited scale using air since 2008.

He also told the House that the country has a proven stock of about 6.9 trillion cubic feet gas.

Though the authorities prepare meal for 2,000 to 2,300 indoor patients, a large num-

ber of them could not eat the food, say hospital sources.

The deputy director (DD) of the hospital is responsible to ensure nutritional diet for the patients, but they never do anything, sources alleged.

Contacted, DD Dr Qazi Enamul Kabir claimed, "The authorities always provide quality and nutritious food. Earlier we provided two smaller pieces of fish or meat. Now we provide one piece of fish which is bigger."

Earlier, mobile courts found rotten and expired food and adulterated milk at the kitchen. Besides, they also found a gravely unhygienic environment at the DMCH kitchen.

According to a survey report of Transparency International Bangladesh in October 2006, food items worth Tk 31,680 were wasted a day as patients could not eat those.

The situation remained unchanged until recently as the authorities always kept a blind eye to all sorts of anomalies.

Govt mulling

FROM PAGE 1
import of gas and electricity," the state minister said in his scripted answers.

In reply to another question, Tuku said there is a daily shortage of about 250 million cubic feet gas in the country.

The government considers importing gas from neighbouring Myanmar, he said.

In another scripted answer, the state minister said it is considered that electricity can be produced through using air or sea and air areas. Electricity is being produced in Kutubdia on limited scale using air since 2008.

He also told the House that the country has a proven stock of about 6.9 trillion cubic feet gas.

Though the authorities prepare meal for 2,000 to 2,300 indoor patients, a large num-

ber of them could not eat the food, say hospital sources.

The deputy director (DD) of the hospital is responsible to ensure nutritional diet for the patients, but they never do anything, sources alleged.

Contacted, DD Dr Qazi Enamul Kabir claimed, "The authorities always provide quality and nutritious food. Earlier we provided two smaller pieces of fish or meat. Now we provide one piece of fish which is bigger."

Earlier, mobile courts found rotten and expired food and adulterated milk at the kitchen. Besides, they also found a gravely unhygienic environment at the DMCH kitchen.

According to a survey report of Transparency International Bangladesh in October 2006, food items worth Tk 31,680 were wasted a day as patients could not eat those.

The situation remained unchanged until recently as the authorities always kept a blind eye to all sorts of anomalies.

Govt mulling

FROM PAGE 1
import of gas and electricity," the state minister said in his scripted answers.

In reply to another question, Tuku said there is a daily shortage of about 250 million cubic feet gas in the country.

The government considers importing gas from neighbouring Myanmar, he said.

In another scripted answer, the state minister said it is considered that electricity can be produced through using air or sea and air areas. Electricity is being produced in Kutubdia on limited scale using air since 2008.

He also told the House that the country has a proven stock of about 6.9 trillion cubic feet gas.

Though the authorities prepare meal for 2,000 to 2,300 indoor patients, a large num-

ber of them could not eat the food, say hospital sources.

The deputy director (DD) of the hospital is responsible to ensure nutritional diet for the patients, but they never do anything, sources alleged.

Contacted, DD Dr Qazi Enamul Kabir claimed, "The authorities always provide quality and nutritious food. Earlier we provided two smaller pieces of fish or meat. Now we provide one piece of fish which is bigger."

Earlier, mobile courts found rotten and expired food and adulterated milk at the kitchen. Besides, they also found a gravely unhygienic environment at the DMCH kitchen.

According to a survey report of Transparency International Bangladesh in October 2006, food items worth Tk 31,680 were wasted a day as patients could not eat those.

The situation remained unchanged until recently as the authorities always kept a blind eye to all sorts of anomalies.

Govt mulling

FROM PAGE 1
import of gas and electricity," the state minister said in his scripted answers.

In reply to another question, Tuku said there is a daily shortage of about 250 million cubic feet gas in the country.

The government considers importing gas from neighbouring Myanmar, he said.

In another scripted answer, the state minister said it is considered that electricity can be produced through using air or sea and air areas. Electricity is being produced in Kutubdia on limited scale using air since 2008.

He also told the House that the country has a proven stock of about 6.9 trillion cubic feet gas.