

TEST RELIEF PROGRAMME IN SADULLAPUR OF GAIBANDHA

# 57 project heads sued on misappropriation charge

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

Authorities have sued 57 project chairmen on charge of misappropriating rice and wheat allocated for government test relief programme meant for maintenance of rural infrastructure in Sadullapur upazila of the district.

Sadullapur upazila Project Implementation Officer (PIO) Moshirul Rahman filed certificate cases with the UNO and General Certificate Officer's court in the upazila accusing the 57 chairmen of misappropriating 18 tonnes of rice allocated for 14 projects and 46 tonnes of wheat for 43 projects under the programme.

Most of the accused people are local leaders and activists of Jatiya Party (Ershad).

PIO Moshirul Rahman said 175 tonnes of rice and 488 tonnes of wheat were allocated against 419 development projects for the imple-

mentation of rural infrastructures including primary and high schools, colleges, madrasas, mosques, temples, Eidgah grounds, Muktijoddha Sangsads office, funeral ground and union land office in Sadullapur upazila in 2009-10 fiscal year.

As investigation revealed that chairmen of 63 projects misappropriated either total or partial amount of the allocated food grains without implementing the work, the authority in June 2010 asked the defaulter project chairmen to deposit the price of allocated food grain to the government account.

But none of them responded to the notice.

The authority on January 11 this year again issued notice to the 63 defaulter project chairmen for depositing double the price of misappropriated food grains to government account without delay, the PIO said.

Meanwhile, an appeal jointly

signed by the president and the secretary of Sadullapur upazila Awami League (AL) was forwarded to the Ministry of Relief and Disaster Management for re-investigation into the cases of six project chairmen, all union level leaders of AL.

The ministry asked the deputy commissioner of Gaibandha to re-investigate the matter of the six project chairmen.

The 57 other project chairmen did not deposit stipulated amount of Tk 23 lakh 25 thousand 576 against the misappropriated food grains.

Consequently, the PIO started filing certificate cases against 57 project chairmen on May 9 as per government rules under PDR Act 1913.

The defaulter project chairmen, who are influential and politically backed, did not implement the work and sold delivery order of the allocated food grain in black mar-

ket, said Sadullapur upazila PIO Moshirul Rahman.

Contacted by this correspondent, some defaulter project chairmen said they became victim to the wrath of political leaders despite implementing the work properly.

"We will go for legal battle for justice," said a project chairman at Bongram village.

As the defaulters misappropriated the food grain specially allocated for employment of the destitute, they should be tried under the existing law, said Shahrier Khan Biplob, secretary of upazila unit of AL.

On the other hand, Rafiqul Islam, secretary of upazila unit of Jatiya Party, said, "So far as I know, the project chairmen implemented the works properly. Still they are being charged with misappropriation cases. It is simply harassment to them."

## Headmaster besieged for assault on colleague

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

Teachers and students of Gopalpur High School in Kaliganj upazila yesterday confined the headmaster of the school to his office room for two hours from 8:30am protesting alleged physical assault on a female teacher by him.

They also staged a protest rally and formed a human chain on the school premises demanding immediate removal of the headmaster.

Sources said female teacher Rahima Khatun sought two days' leave on medical ground on May 9, but headmaster Chittaranjan Pal refused to grant the leave. Rahima had to undergo a minor operation.

As Rahima came to school on May 11, the headmaster misbehaved with Rahima and forced her to leave the school. Rahima informed the matter to upazila secondary education officer Abdul Bari who talked to the headmaster and asked Rahima to join.

Accordingly, Rahima reached the school yesterday morning. Teachers of the school alleged Headmaster Chittaranjan Pal called her to his office at around 8:00am locked in an altercation with her. At one stage, he physically assaulted Rahima, they said.

The incident sparked protest among the teachers and students of the school.

Contacted, Headmaster Chittaranjan Pal said he is not the only responsible for the incident.

"Rahima exchanged heated words with me and hit on my head with her sandal," he said.



Nurses of Chapainawabganj Nursing Training Institute and Chapainawabganj Sadar Hospital bring out a procession in Chapainawabganj town yesterday marking International Nurses Day yesterday.

# 3 alleged killers of Tangail woman, daughter held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) early yesterday arrested three suspected killers of a woman and her daughter in Delduar upazila.

The arrestees are Sanwar Hossain, 50, his son Rony, 20, and Mohammad Shorab, 32, of Borny village.

The sensational double murder took place on May 6 night at the village.

Delduar police recovered the bodies of handicraft maker Hazera Begum, 55, and her daughter Nasrin Akter, 22, from a paddy field adjacent to their house at the village.

After the incident, Hazera's son Mosharaf Hossain filed a case and police arrested Sirajul Islam, husband of victim Nasrin in connection with the murder.

Police took Sirajul on remand for three days for quizzing but could not extract any information regarding the murder.

public, planned to kill Nasrin, Shohrab said.

"He came to me, asked me to kill Nasrin and assured me that in return he will not demand Tk 25,000 that I borrowed from him," he said.

As per the plan, Rony called Nasrin out of her house and took her to a bamboo cluster at night where Shohrab and Sanwar were waiting for them. Immediately after Nasrin's arrival, Shohrab strangled her on the spot.

A few minutes later, Nasrin's mother Hazera came out of the house in search of her daughter. Shohrab strangled her also on the spot and dumped the bodies in the paddy field.

Although Shohrab claimed that he killed both the woman and her daughter, Sanwar and his son Rony told journalists that the statement of Shohrab was a cock and bull story. They strongly refuted their involvement with the murder.

# Masked gang enters house, attacks new UP chairman

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

A newly elected UP chairman was seriously injured as an unidentified gang attacked him on Wednesday midnight.

He was admitted first at Patuakhali general hospital and then shifted to Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital.

Victim Feroz Alam, was recently elected chairman of Jaintathi union parishad under Sadar upazila.

Office In-charge (OC) of Ghor police station Azizur Rahman said, the two chairman aspirants are inhabitants of Hijulia village.

The villagers sat with the two candidates at Hijulia Bazar at night to select a single candidate in their village.

After some discussion, Rezaul Karim Uzzal, central Juba League member and brother of candidate Belayet Hossain Sujol, said that incumbent chairman Selim Khan should not participate in the upcoming union parishad election as he is sick.

But Selim Khan rejected the proposal. At this, the supporters of the two chairman candidates locked in altercation and later engaged in clashes, the OC said.

At least 10 people were injured. A few of them were taken to Ghor upazila health complex for treatment.



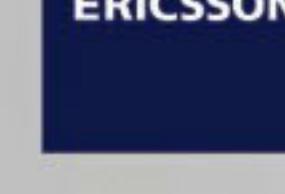
PHOTO: STAR  
Injured Feroz Alam

In Manikganj, at least 10 people were injured in a clash between supporters of two chairman candidates of Borotia union parishad under Ghor upazila on Wednesday night, reports our correspondent.

Hearing hue and cry nearby people rushed to the spot and rescued him in critical condition.

However, the criminals managed to flee the scene.

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