

Milk Vita choking

FROM PAGE 1
authorities for retaining the jobs of the illegally-appointed employees and paying them salaries regularly.

None of the staff could draw salaries for last month, said sources.

Mohammad Munir Chowdhury, acting managing director of Milk Vita, said they are trying to resolve the ongoing crisis.

The state minister for LGRD and cooperatives is expected to hold a meeting with the Milk Vita authorities and the CBA today to find a solution to the crisis.

Jahangir Alam Maznu, the CBA president and a supervisor of Milk Vita, said, "We had earlier warned the authorities of such consequences if they stopped paying salaries to the 76 employees."

In connivance with the CBA, the management committee of Bangladesh Milk Producers' Cooperative Union, which owns the Milk Vita brand, made the appointments on January 9 without having any legal jurisdiction.

The Rural Development and Cooperatives Division under the LGRD and cooperatives ministry has ordered the Milk Vita authorities to scrap the appointments and stop paying the new recruits.

Some from the CBA assaulted a manager of the company on January 19, as he conveyed the government's decision to

the CBA members for scrapping the appointments, said another official wishing anonymity.

They also threatened to stop production at the factory.

Jahangir said they have blocked the disbursement of salaries to compel the authorities to pay the newly-appointed employees.

On the assault on the company manager, Jahangir said he was unaware of the incident. He also refuted the allegation of making any threats to stop the company's production.

Five years ago, the government had dismissed 387 Milk Vita employees who were appointed flouting the rules.

But much to the surprise of many, the authorities have recently proposed reappointment of 54 people, who had been dismissed earlier.

Though Hasib Khan Tarun, chairman of Milk Vita's 12-member management committee, didn't have any jurisdiction to make any appointments, he unilaterally issued appointment letters to 76 job seekers, including the 54, show official documents.

A recruitment committee headed by the company's general manager is designated for issuing appointment letters to job seekers upon approval by the Department of Cooperatives.

The government on

January 14 asked the chairman to cancel all illegal appointments and the entire recruitment process. Instead of complying with the directive, the chairman instigated the CBA to put pressure on the authorities concerned for retaining the new recruits, said official sources.

Talking to The Daily Star, Hasib admitted that he had no jurisdiction to make such appointments. "I did it to calm a volatile situation, as the CBA issued an ultimatum for reappointment of the dismissed employees."

He ruled out the allegation of instigating the CBA members to put pressure on the authorities.

Mihir Kanti Majumder, secretary to the Rural Development and Cooperative Division, said the government has already requested the Anti-Corruption Commission to file corruption cases against the chairman, vice-chairman and directors of the company for making illegal appointments.

Referring to the irregularities in Milk Vita, he said a corrupt cartel has been exploiting the company for long.

He said though the dairy has not been able to produce enough milk, it went for setting up a Tk25 crore water bottling plant in Shibpur of Narsingdi. The plant is yet to start functioning.

Trial reaches

FROM PAGE 20
the nation's struggle for independence since the Partition in 1947 and how they would place their arguments in the upcoming days.

Ghulam Azam, considered by many as the symbol of crimes against humanity committed during the Liberation War, is facing five charges at the tribunal.

Tribunal-1 on Thursday closed recording defence witnesses' testimony as the defence in the case repeatedly failed to produce witnesses.

However, the defence yesterday came up with a new petition praying for permission to produce new witnesses, whose names were not on the list they had provided the tribunal with earlier.

The tribunal asked the defence whether they had submitted attendance of the new witnesses to the court.

Defence counsel Tajul Islam said they had not submitted the names, but if the tribunal granted their prayer, they would produce the witnesses.

He also claimed that three new witnesses were ready to testify.

The tribunal rejected their prayer. Tajul then prayed to the tribunal to include their submission in its order and the tribunal accepted.

Tajul on several occasions last week had said they would not be able to produce witnesses as they were scared of the ongoing Shahbagh demonstrations.

The tribunal adjourned the case proceedings until today but defence counsel Mizanul Islam citing "personal reasons" yesterday prayed for adjourning today's proceedings.

Jamaat has called a countrywide daylong hartal today. The Jamaat

defence team had earlier refrained from attending court proceedings during strikes or other protests organised by the party.

The tribunal suggested Mizanul that if the defence counsel felt it was too difficult to show up in court, he should send his juniors.

Regarding the closing arguments, the tribunal asked the defence and the prosecution to submit an index, in writing, of charges and corresponding documents and evidence as it would enable the court to follow the arguments better.

SQ CHOWDHURY
In the afternoon session, BNP leader Salauddin Quader Chowdhury himself completed cross-examination of 20th prosecution witness Sheikh Murshed in the war crimes case filed against him.

The tribunal adjourned the case proceedings until February 24.

The witness on Thursday said war crimes accused SQ Chowdhury had identified his father and brother for the Pakistan army to have them picked up during the Liberation War.

Murshed's father Sheikh Mozaffar Ahmed and brother Sheikh Alamgir never returned home.

SQ Chowdhury asked the witness whether he had seen any photograph of him [accused SQ Chowdhury] before that incident.

Murshed replied in the negative.

The witness said he did not know whether SQ Chowdhury was identified by any other villagers that day.

SQ Chowdhury suggested that the incident [of April 17, 1971] was totally untrue and has been created by the prosecution.

The witness said it was not true.

Bid for bloodbath

FROM PAGE 20
new generation, have woken up," she said while talking to members of the newly-elected managing committee of Chittagong Press Club at her office in the capital.

The premier alleged that the entire generation could not know the real history of the country due to conspiracy of post-1975 rulers after the assassination of Bangabandhu.

Turning to the Shahbagh movement, especially on participation of youth, she said, "The ongoing movement has infused the sense of patriotism into the minds of a cross-section of people, including children."

The movement has helped inspire people in every nook and corner of the country with the spirit of Liberation War, Hasina said, adding that this spirit among the future generation could lead the nation towards peace and prosperity.

The premier said her government has been trying to turn the country into a developed one alongside putting efforts into establishing the spirit of the war to safeguard the nation's future prosperity.

In this context, she men-

tioned her government's initiatives for strengthening the Election Commission and making the country's electoral system fully free, fair and neutral.

"Free, fair and neutral elections are being held in the country as the Awami League is in power," she told the managing committee members of Chittagong Press Club.

Hasina said Awami League considers the voting rights of people as one of their constitutional rights. "This right of the masses won't be allowed to distort in anyway."

She highlighted the projects taken by her government for development of the port city, saying more flyovers and roads would be constructed there.

Besides, steps have already been taken to resolve water-logging problem and improve supply of pure drinking water, gas and power in the city, she added.

The press club leaders expressed their full solidarity with the premier's endeavour to make the country free from the clutches of anti-liberation forces and hold the trial of war criminals.

Chittagong Press Club President Ali Abbas, its general secretary Mohsin Chowdhury, vice president Rashed Rouf, among others, spoke on the occasion.

PM's Press Secretary Abul Kalam Azad and her Office Secretary Mollah Waheeduzzaman were also present.

Nato to comply with Afghan air strike ban

AFP, Kabul

The commander of US-led forces in Afghanistan yesterday said he would comply with President Hamid Karzai's order banning Afghan security forces from seeking Nato air support.

Karzai said on Saturday that he would issue a decree ordering an end to local security forces calling in Nato air strikes amid new tensions over civilian casualties caused by such attacks.

Air strikes have been an important weapon in the fight against Taliban insurgents, but they have also proved hugely controversial as they have led to numerous civilian deaths.

Office of the Lama Pourashava
Dist: Bandarban

Memo No. Lama Pou:UTIDP/Six-13/2012-13/ Date : 29/01/2013

Invitation for Tenders (IFT)
IFT No. 02/2012-2013

1. According to "The Public Procurement Rules-2008" as limit tendering method sealed tenders are hereby invited from the eligible tenderer as defined in the documents for the undermentioned list of work.

Contract package No.	Name of works	Estimate cost (Tk)	Tender security (Tk)	Time for completion	Price of tender document
P-03/UTIDP/2012-13	Extension of Street Light Lama Thana to Forest Office & Mim Filling Station to Katapahar under Lama Pourashava	1013814.00	25,500.00	60 days	1500.00

2. Date, time and place of pre-tender meeting : 04th of February 2013, 11.00am office of the undersigned.

3. Last date, time and place of selling tender document : 03rd of March 2013, 5.00pm.
(a) Deputy Director of Local Govt. at Office of Deputy Commissioner, Bandarban.
(b) Xen. LGED, Bandarban and
(c) Office of the undersigned.

4. Last date, time and place of receiving tender : 4th of March 2013, 1.00pm.
Office of the Lama Pourashava, Bandarban.

5. Date, time and place of opening of tender : 5th of March 2013, 11.00am office of the undersigned.

6. Tender shall be valid for a period of 119 days after tenders opening and must be accompanied by a tender security as mentioned in para-1 above in the form of Pay Order/Bank Draft from any schedule bank in Bangladesh drawn in favor of mayor, Lama Pourashava.

7. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons. Whatsoever interested tenderer may obtain further information from the Engineering Section of office of the undersigned.

Biswajit Das
Assistant Engineer
Lama Pourashava
Dist: Bandarban

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Ultra 3	512 Kbps	Tk. 1800	1.5 GB	2 GB
Ultra 5	150 Kbps	Tk. 275	Unlimited (100 am - 9:00 am)	N/A
Ultra 6	150 Kbps	Tk. 400	1.5 GB	2 GB
Ultra 7	300 Kbps	Tk. 500	800 MB	1.5 GB
Ultra 8	300 Kbps	Tk. 425	Unlimited (1:00 am - 9:00 am)	N/A

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Invitation for Tenders
Diabetic Association of Bangladesh (BADAS)
122, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Shahbag, Dhaka

Sl. No.	Particulars	Remarks
01	Procuring entity name	Director (Project and Development), BADAS.
02	Project name	Establishment of Liver Transplantation Unit in Bangladesh Diabetic Association (BADAS).
03	Invitation for tenders reference & date	Memo No. BADAS/Project/01 Date: February 16, 2013.
04	Name of works	Price of tender documents (non-refundable)
Group-a)	Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of 500 KVA Generator Set for Liver Transplantation Unit	Tk 3,000.00
Group-b)	Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Fire Detection & Alarm System for Liver Transplantation Unit	Tk 2,000.00
Group-c)	Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Nurse Call System for Liver Transplantation Unit	Tk 2,000.00
Group-d)	Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Sound System for Liver Transplantation Unit	Tk 1,500.00
05	Eligibility of bidder/firm	(i) The bidders/contractors or reputed firms should be manufacturer or local agent (authorised supplier/distributor or dealer) of their proposed brand, having minimum 3 (three) years specific work experience of at least 01 similar work in Bangladesh. (ii) Other required eligibility & conditions are shown in tender data sheet of tender documents.
06	Name and address of the office(s) selling & receiving tender document	Office of the Director (Project and Development), Diabetic Association of Bangladesh, 122, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Shahbag, Dhaka.
07	Name and address of the office(s) opening tenders	As above.
08	Date and time for selling tender document	During 8:30am to 4:00pm (on all working days) from March 2, 2013 to March 14, 2013.
09	Pre-tender meeting (optional)	On March 9, 2013. At 11:00 hours (morning).
10	Last date and time for submission of tenders	On or before March 16, 2013 within 12:00 hours (noon).
11	Date and time for opening of tender	On March 16, 2013 at 12:30 hours (noon). Intending bidders or their authorised representative may remain present during opening of tenders.
12	Contact details of official inviting tender	Telephone: 861664, 9661551, Ext: 2521 Facsimile number: +880-2-9677772
13	Budget and source of funds	Own fund.
14	Special instruction	01. An application with supporting documents (copies of authorised local agent's certificate, experience certificate, trade licence, Vat, AIT etc.) is required to be submitted to the undersigned for obtaining permission for purchasing of the tender documents of any group. 02. The authority is not bound to accept the lowest tender and reserves the right to accept any or reject the whole tender or part of it or annul the tendering process without having any obligation to assign or communicate reasons thereof whatsoever and without any financial implications thereon.

Md. Golam Kibria Bhuiyan
Director (Project and Development)
Diabetic Association of Bangladesh, 122, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Shahbag, Dhaka

D-96

After the killings

FROM PAGE 1
Hospital.

It was an entire Bangalee nation that was left in a state of shock by the action of the government. Nothing of a violent nature had been resorted to by the students. There was absolutely no indication that the peaceful protest would lead to chaos. The attack on the students, therefore, was entirely unprovoked.

The next day, February 22, a total strike was observed in Dhaka to protest the killings. The strike even affected Narayanganj, where railway workers went on a work stoppage at the news of the killings. The vice chancellor of Dhaka University made it clear that there had been no provocation that could have justified the police action of the previous day.

On the same day, a meeting of the Dhaka High Court Bar Association, presided over by Sher-e-Bangla AK Fazlul Huq, censured the police over their harsh action. At mosques throughout the province, prayers were offered for the dead. Doctors and staff at the medical college severely condemned the police action. Sher-e-Bangla and Abul Hashim were among the thousands of people who attended the janaza of the martyred young men in Dhaka.

Meanwhile, outraged by the false and motivated reporting of the language movement by the pro-establishment newspaper Morning News, people attacked and set the offices

of the newspaper on fire. Morning News had been spreading the canard of India and the communists being behind the language movement. It even reported that a large number of dhotis, the dress worn by Hindus, had been recovered in the city. The insinuation was obvious.

When the legislative assembly met in session on the day, Moulana Abdur Rashid Tarkabagish and Khairat Hossain moved an adjournment on the incidents of February 21.

Khairat Hossain and Ali Ahmed Khan asked that condolences be adopted by the assembly, a suggestion opposed by Chief Minister Nurul Amin.

The motions, when placed in the House, were defeated as the numbers necessary for a discussion on them could not be garnered.

Bomb kills 2 in south Thai city

REUTERS, Bangkok

A bomb killed two people in southern Thailand yesterday and police said they had defused other devices, apparently placed by Muslim separatists showing their capacity to strike despite a failed attack on a marine base last week.

The insurgency in Thailand's south by ethnic Malay separatists flared up in 2004 and more than 5,300 people have since been killed in the provinces of Pattani, Yala and Narathiwat.

UCEP-Bangladesh

"IMD MBA Roundtable: The Bangladeshi Model of Inclusive Growth" held on 4-5 February 2013 at Lausanne, Switzerland

The Underprivileged Children's Educational Programs (UCEP) Bangladesh is one of the leading national NGOs in the country engaged in transforming the poor working children of the urban areas as skilled human resources through education, skills training, advocacy on rights and job placement since 1972.

Ms. Luna Shamsuddoha, Member UCEP Board of Governors and Mr. Mikhail I. Islam, Member UCEP Association joined in the panel of four eminent Bangladeshi Business Leaders to participate in the Roundtable organized by The Evian Group@IMD to discuss Bangladesh as a potential success story heading towards prosperity. The Roundtable was held from 4-5 February 2013 at Lausanne, Switzerland.

The Roundtable was arranged with the aim of showing how the Asian country's model of inclusive growth could help its own objective becoming a middle income country by 2021 and overcoming its challenges as a Least Developed Country (LDC). A follow-up discussion of the IMD MBA trip to Bangladesh was also a part of the Roundtable discussion where the IMD MBA graduates mentioned that their visit to UCEP-Bangladesh in 2012 was very inspiring.

As a panelist, Ms. Luna Shamsuddoha, Chairman, Dohatech New Media and Member UCEP Board of Governors said that Bangladeshis believe in social inclusion and women empowerment and women should not only work as garments or machine workers, they must be given managerial skills. Ms. Luna mentioned the example of UCEP-Bangladesh working for the elimination of poverty for last four decades through providing skills training and job placement to underprivileged working children of Bangladesh.

Mr. Mikhail I. Islam, Managing Director I-K Foundation and Member of UCEP Association and Fellow panelist of the Roundtable also said that, through the skills development programs of UCEP, the young can acquire marketable skills in areas such as plumbing, textiles, machinery, refrigeration or nursing. He also said that UCEP not only provides skills training but also provides jobs to over 94% of its graduates in the country's major industries such as ship-building, textiles and food supply.