

# Farmer Shamsher suffers not just for mistaken identity

Yet the real culprit is yet to be brought to book

EAM ASADUZZAMAN,  
Nilphamari

An elderly farmer, facing case for 'defaulting' the agriculture loan that he never took, has at last got relieved of the ordeal as the alleged culprit, a former field supervisor of Dimla branch of Rajshahi Krishi Unnayan Bank, finally deposited the money.

In last September, Shamsher Ali, 70, of Ramdanga village of Dimla upazila, got a notice from the bank for repayment of Tk 26,000 as loan with interest although he never received any loan from there, he told this correspondent in front of the bank Sunday noon.

Following Shamsher Ali's application, the upazila nirbahi officer (UNO) of Dimla in mid October directed the bank manager concerned to take necessary step, said the victim's family and bank sources.

Although internal verification found that the photograph and signature of the loanee attached to the documents did not match with those of Shamsher Ali, the bank officials continued telling the farmer that the bank would treat him as loan recipient as the real culprit was not found, they said.

As bank investigation found that the then field supervisor Azizul Islam, in collaboration with a local forgery syndicate, misappropriated the loan money in the name of the farmer, officials of the bank branch contacted with Azizul, now serving in Lalmonirhat zone of Rajshahi Krishi Unnayan Bank. But they failed to recover the money till Sunday noon.

Finding Shamsher Ali sitting in front of the bank that day, this correspondent talked to him.

"As I met the bank officials today, they threatened to file case against me if I did



PHOTO: STAR

Falsely charged with defaulting agricultural loan, an upset Shamsher Ali, accompanied by his wife and son, sits down in front of Dimla branch of Rajshahi Krishi Unnayan Bank on Sunday after the bank officials pressed him to pay Tk 26,000 as "loan money and its five years' interest" to evade a case.

not pay the money in time. I was so hurt that I felt sick and sat down on the ground here," he said.

This correspondent took him inside the bank and politely told officials that if the farmer is not relieved from the false charge and the real culprit is not brought to book, it would bring disrepute to the bank.

In the afternoon the same day, Azizul Islam came to the bank and deposited the total amount of misappropriated loan money with interest stood at Tk 26,000 in last five years, the bank decided to file a case

second officer of Dimla branch of the bank.

Earlier on Saturday, Abul Hossain, manager of Dimla branch of Rajshahi Krishi Unnayan Bank, said, "Farmer Shamsher Ali, as per bank's folio No 48/73, received Tk 16,000 as agriculture loan with 10 per cent interest on June 30 of 2008 and was scheduled to repay it with interest by September 2009. As the farmer became defaulter and total amount of money with interest stood at Tk 26,000 in last five years, the bank decided to file a case

against him with 'Artho Rin Adalot' and sent legal notice to him."

Asked why the innocent farmer faced action despite the findings that he was made defaulter through forgery, the manager said, "We have to make the loan recipient [as shown in official records] responsible and until and unless the real culprit is found out."

Abdul Jalil, zonal manager of Rajshahi Krishi Unnayan Bank, said, "Departmental actions will be taken if there is report of irregularities against any

## Girl dies for 'wrong treatment'

OUR CORRESPONDENT,  
Patuakhali

A madrasa girl died allegedly because of wrong treatment at a clinic in the district town yesterday afternoon.

Angry relatives besieged the clinic, but police brought the situation under control.

The deceased was identified as Mahmuda Begum, 15, a student of class nine at Abedina Dakhil Madrasa under Chhotobighai union in Sadar upazila.

Family members claimed that a doctor carried out three critical operations on her body in last four days which might be the main reason for her death.

They said, Mahmuda Begum was brought to Himi Poly Clinic by her family as she felt serious abdominal pain on October 29. Owner of the clinic, who is an Assistant Professor at Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital, admitted her. He examined Mahmuda and carried out three operations from October 29 to November 2. Then he left Patuakhali on November 2 and continued treatment through cell phone. However, after the last operation on November 2 night, Mahmuda fell very sick and finally died at about 2.45pm yesterday.

Abdul Latif Howlader, father of the girl, alleged that his daughter died due to wrong treatment. 'I demand justice,' he said.

This correspondent repeatedly tried to communicate with the doctor concerned over cell phone but in vain as he never received the calls.

Md. Monirul Islam, OC of Patuakhali police station, said that the relatives of the patients tried to ransack the clinic.

If any one files any complaint, we will take necessary steps after proper

PHOTO: STAR

Locals throng the pond on the premises of Biral Mahila College in Dinajpur district on Sunday to see bubbles created due to spilling of kerosene-like substance there. Inset, a layer of the dark colour substance covers the pond water.

# Is it fuel oil, or else?

'Kerosene-like substance' bubbles up in a pond in Biral upazila of Dinajpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT,  
Dinajpur

Curious people are thronging Biral Mahila Degree College campus in Biral upazila of the district where fuel oil-like substance bubbles up in a pond water.

Locals said the substance smells like kerosene and spills on the pond.

Md. Anwarul Islam, principal of the college, noticed it when he went to the pond on Sunday afternoon.

Hearing the news, people from adjacent villages rushed

to the college campus to have a glimpse of emission of oil like substance.

Local journalist Md Abdul Kuddus, who visited the spot on Sunday afternoon, said the fuel oil-like substance was seen coming out, creating bubbles. After a few minutes, its colour turned blue, he added.

While visiting the spot yesterday, this correspondent saw a thin layer of petroleum-like substance on the water of the pond.

Biral Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Md. Abdullah Al Khairum along with other officials of the upazila administration visited the spot.

The UNO said he saw fuel oil-like substance bubbling in the pond water and informed the deputy commissioner of the matter.

Contacted, Deputy Commissioner Md. Shamim Al Razi said he urged the ministry concerned to send a team of experts to Biral to look into the matter.

Biral Upazila Nirbahi

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