

DoE allows feed mill in residential area

QUAMRUL ISLAM RUBAIYAT, Thakurgaon

Surprisingly though, the Department of Environment (DoE) has provided Environmental Clearance Certificate for operation of a feed mill at a residential area of Roghunathpur in Pirganj municipality under the district.

The sound, dust and bad smell from the feed mill poses health hazard to the nearby residents as the mill, which produces poultry, fish and dairy feeds, is now operating in full swing.

Locals said they submitted complaints to the mayor of Pirganj municipality, local lawmaker, upazila nirbahi officer, deputy commissioner (DC) of Thakurgaon, director general of the DoE and secretary of the Ministry of Forest and Environment.

But the feed mill beside Shaheed Professor Golam Mostafa Road behind Miraz Poultry Feed shop in Pirganj municipality has already got all the necessary clearance certificates for operation from the municipality and the DoE.

Two rice and wheat

husking mills and a chilli crushing mill are also running near the feed mill.

"We filed complaints to different departments after construction work of the feed mill started in February this year," said Md Asaduzzaman, a resident next to the feed mill.

Receiving complaint, Pirganj municipality Mayor Md Raziur Rahman issued letters on April 21, and then on May 16, asking the feed mill owner to stop construction work of the mill in the residential area.

But the municipality authority gave no objection certificate (NOC) to set up the mill in July without mentioning date and the feed mill owner started its operation partially with illegal electric connection on July 31 and got electricity connection officially from Pirganj Palli Bidyut Samity on November 1.

On August 27, Ali Reza Mojid, director of Bogra regional office of DoE, provided Environmental Clearance Certificate for operation of the mill.

Rezaul Islam Reju, 46, Toriqul Islam, 52, residents of adjoining areas of the feed mill, said they face

sound pollution and breathing problem due to sound pollution and bad smell and flying dust from poultry, fish and dairy feed.

Rezaul Karim Raza, Mayor of Pirganj municipality, told this correspondent over cell phone, "I gave NOC to the mill mentioning that it can run if it does not cause environment pollution. Mainly it depends on Directorate of Environment as they are supposed to give clearance of operation."

When contacted, Director of Environment of Bogra Regional Office Ali Reza Mojid told this correspondent over cell phone, "We provided Environmental Clearance Certificate as the investigation report showed the area as fixed industrial area and municipality mayor also gave NOC."

Rezaul Karim Raja, owner of Miraz Feed Mill, told this correspondent over cell phone, "I have decided to set up the feed mill here as several rice, wheat husking mills and a chili husking mill have been running in the area for years. I have taken measure for dust collection and so, the environment will not be polluted."



PHOTO: STAR

A feed mill (marked X) set up in a residential area of Roghunathpur in Pirganj municipality under Thakurgaon district runs in full swing, troubling the nearby people with noise, dust and odour.

Hard rock workers to block mine's gate from today

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinaipur

The agitating workers and miners of Madhyapara Granite Mining Company Ltd [MGCL] will blockade the entrance to the mine for an indefinite period from today to realise their five-point demand.

"We will enforce the blockade programme from tomorrow as the authorities concerned have failed to meet the demands," said Khairul Islam, president of MGMCL Workers and Miners Union.

Around 304 workers and miners of the hard rock mine have been observing work abstention since November 25 to press their five-point demand.

The demands include 20 percent dearliness allowance, abolition of the system of employment of workers and miners through outsourcing companies, reinstatement of eight retrenched miners, stopping of such retrenchment, and regularisation of job of diploma engineers.

The work abstention led to suspension of rock extraction from the mine and caused

daily loss of around Tk 13 lakh to the company as of yesterday.

The union leaders and MGMCL authorities held several meetings to find a solution to the crisis, but the meetings yielded no positive results.

Md Anwarul Islam, general secretary of MGMCL Workers and Miners Union, said many workers employed through an outsourcing company have been working since inception of the mine but their job regularisation remains a distant dream.

Md Moinuddin, managing director of MGMCL, said, "The company signed a contract on September 2 this year with a Belarus based company for the mine's maintenance and production. That company will look after the matter."

The demand for abolition of employment through outsourcing is impractical, the MD added. He urged the miners and workers to withdraw their agitation programme and sought their cooperation to resume the rock production.

Power of the web

FROM PAGE 16

Now scientists at Oxford University have revealed another unique quality -- webs actively spring towards prey thanks to electrically conductive glue spread across their surface.

Researchers discovered that the electrical properties of a glue that coats spider webs causes them to reach out to grab all charged particles, from pollen and pollutants to flying insects.

The study, published in Naturwissenschaften journal, shows how a quirk of physics causes webs to move towards all airborne objects, regardless of whether they are positively or negatively charged.

This explains why webs are able to spring towards prey and how they collect small airborne particles so efficiently. Spider webs could, according to research-

ers, be used for environmental monitoring as they actively filter airborne pollutants with the same accuracy as expensive industrial sensors.

"Electrical attraction draws airborne pollutants including aerosols and pesticides to the webs, so you could harvest and test webs to monitor pollution levels -- for example, to check for pesticides that might be harming bee populations," said Prof Fritz Vollrath of Oxford University's department of zoology, who led the study.

The researchers showed that the webs also cause local distortions in the Earth's electric field since they behave like conducting discs.

Prof Vollrath added that spider webs make use of the static charge developed by moving insects to "actively catch prey".



PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

Growers bundle harvested sugarcane at a field of Baira Jamalpur Chawk in Singair upazila under Manikganj district a few days ago. They are, however, uncertain about the sale or proper price of the crop as most of the mills are yet to start sugarcane crushing during the peak season due to ongoing blockades and stockpiling of huge unsold product.

Over 5 lakh people suffer for want of a bridge

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Over five lakh people of Dashmina and Galachipa upazilas continue to suffer as construction work of a bridge on Sutabaria river under Dashmina upazila has not been completed in 13 years.

Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) could not build the bridge for lack of fund though its foundation stone was laid during the last Awami League rule in 1996-2001.

LGED took up the bridge project at Alipur point under Dashmina upazila at a cost of Tk 1.60 crore in 2000-2001 fiscal.

AKM Jahangir Hossain, the then state minister for textile, also local lawmaker, laid the foundation of the bridge.

Tk 30 lakh was given under primary allocation and the work started in full swing.

Basement of the eastern side (Chandpura) of the bridge was completed. But following the change-over of government in 2001, no more allocation was made as BNP came to power.

As a result, construction work came to a halt in the name of shortage of fund.

According to local people, the bridge is of great importance to them as it



PHOTO: STAR

This bridge, supposed to be built on Sutabaria River in Dashmina upazila of Patuakhali district, lies unfinished for long 13 years, causing sufferings to over 5 lakh people.

will radically improve communication between Dashmina and Galachipa upazila towns.

At least 10 km distance would be reduced between the upazila headquarters if the bridge was completed, Motaleb Mridha, a local tradersaid.

Several thousand people, including school and college going students now have to cross the river by country boat everyday, he added.

Dashmina upazila administration lease out the boat terminal every year and this year it took Tk 1.20 lakh for it, Altab Mridha, another resident of the area said.

Abdul Aziz, Dashina upazila chairman told this correspondent that he sent several letters to the authorities concerned to take steps to finish the construction work but to no effect.

We also suggested a revised estimate of Tk 3 crore to build the bridge but failed as fund was not available, he added.

Md Kamal Hossain, LGED assistant engineer in Patuakhali, said that work was started with a fund of foreign donation under a special project but the duration of the project ended in 2001.

We couldn't complete the bridge as the period of project was not extended, he

SNIPPETS

Doctor's body recovered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Police recovered the body of a missing doctor from a pond in Galachipa upazila town yesterday afternoon. The deceased is Md Mokhlesur Rahman, 33, a physician of Gonoshasthya Kendra in Dhaka and resident of Nagorpur village in Tangail district. Mizanur Rahman, deputy director (DD) of Gonoshasthya Kendra, said a team of doctors came to Galachipa on Friday to conduct health camp for local poor people. The team was staying at a house owned by one Golam Mostafa in Samudabad area in the upazila town. Mokhlesur went missing around 11:00am from the house. Later, his body was found in a nearby pond. The body was sent to Patuakhali General Hospital morgue to autopsy, said Shishir Kumer Paul, OC Galachipa police station.

Schoolgirl 'commits suicide'

UNB, Barisal

A schoolgirl allegedly committed suicide at Jamir Khan Road in the city early Saturday. The deceased is Dola Aktar, 13, a class VIII student at Barisal Government Girls' School and daughter of Luthfunnesa Begum, staff nurse of Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital and Shahidul Islam, a retired bank officer. Police recovered the hanging body of Dola from her bedroom early in the morning. An unnatural death case was filed in this regard, said Shakhawat Hossain, officer in-charge of Kotwali police station.

Three held with arms

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Natore

Police arrested three youths along with a pistol, two bullets a magazine and three axes at Pirganj village in Sadar upazila on Saturday night. The arrestees are Biplob Hossain, 25, of Tebaria area of the town, Rasel Ahmed, 23, and Ashrafal Islam Shuvo, 26, of the same area. Mahidul Islam, sub-inspector of Natore police station, said Biplob often harassed a girl on her way to college. Recently, a village arbitrator, Kamal Uddin, tried to settle the matter. Enraged by his act, Biplob along with his associates Rasel and Shuvo attacked Kalam, laving him injured. Hearing the hue and cry locals rushed to the spot and caught the attackers. They also recovered the firearm and bullets from their possession.

Missing man found dead

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Comilla

A bus helper, who went missing three days ago, was found dead in a pond in Raipur Bazar area in Daudkandi upazila yesterday morning. The deceased was identified as Abul Kalam, 26, son of Kari Mostaq Miah of Viti Raipur village. Officer in-charge Abul Faysal of Daudkandi police station said Abul Kalam went out of home on Thursday morning and since then he remained missing. He could not ascertain how Abul Kalam died. The body was sent to Comilla Medical College and Hospital morgue for autopsy, said the OC.

Peddler held with yaba

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Members of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) yesterday arrested an alleged drug peddler along with 13500 pieces of yaba tablets from Naf River in Teknaf upazila yesterday morning. The arrestee is Mohammad Rafique, 29, son of Wahidur Rahman of Pashchim Dargahpara area in Lila union. Commander of BGB-42 Battalion Lt Col Abu Jafar Al Jahid said, on secret information, a team raided a boat in Lamarchar area in the river and arrested Rafique along with the yaba tablets.

AL man killed, his house set afire

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

An Awami League activist was hacked to death by an unidentified gang at Aamtala village under Sadar upazila of the district yesterday.

The dead, Ezhar Ali Morol, 55, was a member of Bali union unit of Awami League.

Nilufar Begum, wife of the deceased, said a gang of 12 to 14 criminals set fire to their shop-cum-house at the village at around 1:30am.

As Ezhar came out of the house, the gang hacked him with sharp weapons and severed tendons of his hands and legs, she added.

Critically injured Ezhar was rushed to Sadar Hospital where he died at around 7:45am.

According to family sources, there was a long-standing dispute between Ezhar and Abul Khair, Mizanur Rahman and Abul Kashem of the village over four decimals of land near the Betna River. He might have been killed by them as a sequel to the dispute, sources said.

Babar Ali Morol, brother to the victim, said their rivals, who are involved with Jamaat Shibir politics, took the advantage of the ongoing political turmoil and killed his brother.

Demand for promotion

FROM PAGE 1

On November 27, over 100 OSDs met Senior Secretary Sobhan Sikder and Cabinet Secretary M Musharraf Hossain Bhuiyan in several groups.

Yesterday, Sikder assured the aggrieved officials of making efforts to meet their demands.

"Making officers OSD is a bad practice. We don't want to see anybody remaining OSD for years. We can't give posting as a huge number of officers were recruited and given promotions," Sikder told The Daily Star.

Awami League-led government gave posting to 2,500 civil servants. But a good number of public servants were deprived of both promotion and posting.

The officers deprived of promotion or posting recently raised their voices hoping that they would get justice in the changed situation ahead of the parliamentary polls.

Some aggrieved officials said they had a plan to stage a big showdown by gathering 400-500 deprived officers at the Secretariat.

"We thought there would be a change in the politics and administration ahead of the election. As it did not happen, we dropped the plan since it would not yield any positive result," one of them said.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

মহিলা ও শিশু বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয়

মহিলা বিষয়ক অধিদপ্তর

৩৭/৩, ইকুটিন গার্ডেন রোড, ঢাকা

খোলা দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

১।	মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ ও সংস্থার নাম	৪।	মহিলা ও শিশু বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয়, মহিলা বিষয়ক অধিদপ্তর।
২।	সংগ্রাহক সত্তার নাম	৫।	প্রকল্প পরিচালক, নিম্নবিত্ত ও মধ্যবিত্ত শ্রেণীর কর্মজীবী মায়াদের শিশুদের জন্য দিবাযাত্র কর্মসূচি প্রকল্প।
৩।	দরপত্র আবেদনের সূত্র ও তারিখ	৬।	২০১৩-১১-০০০০, ০২৭.১১.০০১.১২.৯১৬ ও ৯১৭ তারিখঃ ০৪-১২-২০১৩ইং।
৪।	অর্থের উৎস	৭।	বাংলাদেশ সরকার।
৫।	দরদাতার যোগ্যতা	৮।	প্রাইভেট সিকিউরিটি সার্ভিস লিঃ অথবা জনবল সরবরাহকারী হাঙ্গারদের (২০১৩-২০১৪) ট্রেড লাইসেন্স, ভাট রেজিস্ট্রেশন সার্টিফিকেট, হাঙ্গারদের আয়ের পরিশোধ সনদপত্র, ব্যাংক হতে আর্থিক স্বচ্ছলতার সনদপত্র, চেয়ার অব কমার্শ এর সদস্যত্বপ্রাপ্ত সনদপত্র, দিবাযাত্র কেন্দ্র অথবা একই ধরনের কোন প্রতিষ্ঠানে জনবল সরবরাহের পূর্ব অভিজ্ঞতার (কমপক্ষে ২ বছর) সনদপত্র থাকতে হবে।
৬।	কার্যসম্পাদনের সময়সীমা	৯।	জনবল সরবরাহের কার্যদেশে প্রাপ্তির পর থেকে ৩০ জুন ২০১৪ এর মধ্যে। তবে প্রকল্পের মেয়াদ বৃদ্ধি হলে কার্যদেশের মেয়াদ ১ বছর পর্যন্ত বলবৎ থাকবে।
৭।	সিডিউল বিক্রয়কারী অফিসের নাম ও ঠিকানা	১০।	ক) নিম্নবিত্ত ও মধ্যবিত্ত শ্রেণীর কর্মজীবী মায়াদের শিশুদের জন্য দিবাযাত্র কর্মসূচি প্রকল্প (৭ম তলা), মহিলা বিষয়ক অধিদপ্তর, ৩৭/৩, ইকুটিন গার্ডেন রোড, ঢাকা-১০০০।
৮।	দরপত্র গ্রহণকারী অফিসের নাম ও ঠিকানা	১১।	খ) জেলা মহিলা বিষয়ক কর্মকর্তার কার্যালয়, ১/৬-এ ব্লক-বি, লালমাটিয়া, ঢাকা।
৯।	দরপত্র গ্রহণকারী অফিসের নাম ও ঠিকানা	১২।	ক) প্রকল্প পরিচালক, নিম্নবিত্ত ও মধ্যবিত্ত শ্রেণীর কর্মজীবী মায়াদের শিশুদের জন্য দিবাযাত্র কর্মসূচি প্রকল্প, মহিলা বিষয়ক অধিদপ্তর, ৩৭/৩, ইকুটিন গার্ডেন রোড, ঢাকা এর অফিস কক্ষ (৭ম তলা)।
১০।	দরপত্র দাখিলের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	১৩।	খ) জেলা মহিলা বিষয়ক কর্মকর্তার কার্যালয়, ১/৬-এ ব্লক-বি, লালমাটিয়া, ঢাকা।
১১।	দরপত্র খোলার স্থান ও ঠিকানা	১৪।	১৯-১২-২০১৩ তারিখ অফিস চলাকালীন সময় পর্যন্ত।
১২।	দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	১৫।	২২-১২-২০১৩ তারিখ বেলা ১১:০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
১৩।	কার্যের সংক্ষিপ্ত বিবরণ	১৬।	প্রকল্প পরিচালকের কার্যালয় (৭ম তলা)।

কার্যের বিবরণ	সরবরাহের স্থান	সিডিউলের মূল্য	দরপত্রের জামানত
জনবল সরবরাহ	সদর কার্যালয়সহ ঢাকা ১০টি ডে-ক্যয়ার সেণ্টার (বাড্ডা, আদাবর, ডেমরা, গাবতলী, মিরপুর-১০, জিয়াতলা, সাভার, রাজারবাগ, নাশাপাড়া ও উত্তরা)।	৭৫০/-	৩,৫৫,৩১২/-

১৪।	বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক বা সোনালী ব্যাংক টেন্ডার সিডিউলের মূল্য বাদে ৭৫০/- (সাতশত পঞ্চাশ) টাকা ১-৩০১২-০০০০-৫১৩০ কোডে (অফেরতযোগ্য) জমা দিয়ে চালানোর ফটোকপি জমা দেয়া সাপেক্ষে দরপত্র সিডিউল পাওয়া যাবে।		
১৫।	দরপত্র খোলা ও বন্ধ হওয়ার দিন কোন কারণে অফিস বন্ধ থাকলে পরবর্তী অফিস খোলার দিন একই সময়ে দরপত্র দাখিল এবং বন্ধ হওয়া হবে।		
১৬।	জনবল সরবরাহের বিস্তারিত বিবরণ ও শর্তাবলী দরপত্র সিডিউলে উল্লেখ থাকবে।		
১৭।	বিশেষ শর্তাবলীঃ		
	ক) দরপত্রদাতাগণ The Public Procurement Regulation-2008 এর শর্তাবলী মানতে বাধ্য থাকবেন।		
	খ) কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে কর্তৃপক্ষ যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।		

জিডি-৪৬৭৩

প্রকল্প পরিচালক
নিম্নবিত্ত ও মধ্যবিত্ত শ্রেণীর কর্মজীবী মায়াদের শিশুদের
জন্য দিবাযাত্র কর্মসূচি প্রকল্প
মহিলা বিষয়ক অধিদপ্তর, ঢাকা