

No inpatient services yet at Saidpur Health Complex

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

Patients with serious diseases are not being admitted as inpatients at Saidpur Upazila Health Complex in the district because there is no suitable hospital building. Seventy two people, including doctors, nurses and other staff, have been appointed to the health complex. The government regularly allocates funds, medicine and necessary equipment for it every year, but these supplies are mostly unused and usually returned.

The health complex is presently situated in an old building near Saidpur rail station, which was once used as an outdoor dispensary for providing free treatment to poor people with common diseases.

During a recent visit, this correspondent saw that all the doctors sit in a congested room, while the upazila health and family planning officer (UHFPO) works in a separate room.

Upazila health complexes are usually situated on their own land. They usually offer accommodation for 50 patients, with separate wards for males, females and children. Patients admitted to such a complex can undergo various tests like X-rays, ultra-



PHOTO: STAR

Unlike other medical centres of the kind, Saidpur Upazila Health Complex in Nilphamari district lacks indoor treatment facilities for serious patients as the old building housing the complex is too inadequate for the purpose.

sonograms and pathological tests, in addition to having surgery or delivering babies.

The UHFPO of the health complex, Dr Sultan Mahmud, said they render only outpatient services to patients, who procure medicines for common diseases from a nearby shop.

He added that vaccination programmes are also conducted, and they monitor the activities of all community clinics in

the upazila. The local lawmaker, Shawkat Chowdhury, said serious diseases like tuberculosis, and leprosy are common in Saidpur. To combat this situation, a specialised 100-bed hospital was set up in Kundol area of the upazila town some years ago.

The government has decided to set up a 50-bed upazila health complex for Saidpur outside the upazila town. Contacted, Dr Abdur

Rashid, civil surgeon of Nilphamari, said local leaders have selected a site at Hazarihaat village in Kashiram Bel Pukur union, 10 kms from the upazila, which has a good communication network, for construction of the health complex.

"After receiving approval for the project, steps will be taken for construction of the Saidpur Upazila Health Complex including a 50-bed hospital," he said.

Bus service on Dhaka-Pabna route resumes

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Bus service on Dhaka-Pabna highway through Sirajganj resumed following a fruitful discussion between the transport owners and workers of Pabna and Sirajganj districts.

Bus services through Sirajganj district remained stopped since January 20, after transport workers and owners stopped plying of the vehicles protesting rampant extortion on the highway.

Firoz Khan, president of Pabna transport workers association, said they took the decision at a meeting held in Bogra town on Saturday night where the leaders of transport workers associations of Pabna and Sirajganj were present.

A gang of extortionists in the name of transport workers union beat up a worker of a Dhaka-bound coach at Shahjadpur bus stand in Sirajganj on January 12 as he refused to pay them illegal toll.

Protesting continuous harassment by the extortionists in Shahjadpur upazila of Sirajganj, the agitating transport workers halted Dhaka-Pabna bus service through Sirajganj since January 20.

The transport leaders at the meeting also formed two separate district committees to investigate into the January 12 incident.

College girl commits 'suicide'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole, Jessore

A college girl allegedly committed suicide by hanging herself in Puratan Koshba area in Jessore town on Saturday night.

The deceased was identified as Tahsin Mim, 17, daughter of Abdul Mannan and a second year student of Jessore Government College.

Police said Mim committed suicide in her room after a quarrel with her mother and younger sister around 11:00pm.

SCHOOLTEACHER KILLING CASE

22 Jubo Dal, JCD activists land in Noakhali jail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Noakhali

Twenty-two Jubo Dal and Chhatra Dal activists, accused in the case for killing a schoolteacher in Majdee town during a hartal enforced by the BNP-led alliance on December 29, 2014, were sent to jail yesterday.

District Judo Dal President Mahub Alamgir Alo, Sadar upazila Jubo Dal President VP Jashim, district Chhatra Dal General Secretary Saber Ahmed, Sadar upazila Chhatra Dal President Shamsuddoha Mitu, and Sramik Dal district unit General Secretary Monjurul Kochi, are

among the accused.

They surrendered before Senior Judicial Magistrate's Court at 11:00am and sought bail. Senior Judicial Magistrate Samaresh Shil sent them to jail, rejecting the bail prayer.

According to the case statement, schoolteacher Shamsunnahar sustained injuries on the head as Jubo Dal and Chhatra Dal men hurled brick chips at a pickup van in front of the municipality market during hartal hours on the day.

She was rushed to Noakhali Medical College Hospital and succumbed to her injuries soon after admission.

Stop illegal sand lifting from Khowai River

Demands Habiganj unit of BAPA

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Habiganj unit of Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon (BAPA) formed a human chain in the district town yesterday, demanding steps to stop illegal sand lifting from the Khowai River.

They also urged the district administration to demolish illegal structures on Habiganj town protection embank-

ment and stop the filling up of the town's wetlands.

Several hundred people, including lawyers, development activists and professionals, joined the programme held at Durjoy Habiganj point.

Addressing a rally at the venue, the speakers said some unscrupulous traders are extracting sand from the riverbed of the Khowai, which is

weakening the embankment.

They demanded that the government take immediate steps to stop sand lifting from the river and punish the violators of the environmental laws.

BAPA Habiganj unit President Prof Md Ikramul Wadud, Vice President Md Abidur Rahman, and General Secretary Tofazzal Soheli spoke at the rally.



PHOTO: STAR

Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon forms a human chain in front of Habiganj deputy commissioner's office yesterday demanding immediate steps to prevent illegal and unplanned sand extraction from the Khowai River in the district.

92.37 lakh jute sacks lie unsold in 8 Khulna mills

Despite govt order, producers and dealers of six essential items reluctant to use jute bags

UNB, Khulna

A staggering 92.37 lakh pieces of jute sacks have remained unsold in the eight state-run jute mills of Khulna region, due to poor demand from the factories of sacking goods.

The situation has led to fund shortage and suspension of payment of wages to workers, said officials of different jute mills in the region.

The workers of Platinum Jute Mills demonstrated on January 8 and 9 demanding payment of their arrear wages.

Bangladesh Jute Mill Corporation (BJMC) set a daily target of producing five lakh jute sacks in all the state-run jute mills across the country, following a directive issued by the

authorities late October last year, BJMC sources said.

The target includes 2.63 lakh sacks in eight jute mills in Khulna region -- Crescent, Platinum, Khalishpur, Daulatpur, Star, Eastern, JJI and Carpeting jute mills.

Following the order, the eight state-run mills produced 1 crore 30 lakh 88 thousand 44 jute sacks till January 12 this year, of which 38.50 lakh 445 have been sold while 92.37 lakh 599 pieces of sacks remained unsold.

Of the total 41.73 lakh 162 jute sacks produced in Crescent Jute Mills, 17.30 lakh were sold while Daulatpur Jute Mills sold 1.9 lakh sacks out of 4.97 lakh 317.

Eastern Jute Mills produced 9.29 lakh 458 jute

sacks, of which, 2.24 lakh were sold.

Platinum Jute Mills sold 7.32 lakh 445 jute sacks out of 25.28 lakh 517.

JJI Jute Mills sold 1.68 lakh jute sacks out of its total production of 10.82 lakh 298; Khalishpur Jute Mills sold 4.8 lakh jute sacks out of 28.10 lakh 977 and Star Jute Mills sold 4.79 lakh sacks out of 14.66 lakh 315.

The government earlier issued an order for mandatory use of jute bags for packaging six types of essentials, including paddy, rice, wheat, maize, fertiliser and sugar, and a special drive was launched against use of plastic bags in November last year.

Abu Sayed Md Mamunur Rahman, project chief of Platinum Jute Mills, said the stock of jute sacks sees grad-

ual rise due to low response from the factories and godowns dealing with the six essential items.

Jute sacks worth Tk 11 crore have remained unsold and due to the situation, the mill authorities have failed to pay wages of the workers in time, he added.

Mahabbat Ali Mia, regional coordinator of BJMC, said demand of jute sacks is low due to high demand of hessian bags at the local market.

"Dealers have been appointed for supplying jute sacks from the eight state-run jute mills. As per the new condition, one jute sack is exchanged against one hessian bag," he said.

He hoped that the demand of jute bags will rise during the upcoming potato harvesting season.

FF found dead in Joypurhat

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Police recovered the body of a freedom fighter from a beel (water body) at Mohanpur village in Akkelpur upazila of Joypurhat district yesterday.

The deceased is Mozahar Ali, 62, son of late Moser Ali of Chhayari village in the upazila.

Quoting deceased's family members, police said Mozahar went out of his house on Saturday afternoon and did not return.

Villagers spotted his body in the morning and informed the police, said Akbar Hossain, officer-in-charge of Akkelpur Police Station.

Being informed, police went to the spot and recovered the body. No injury mark was found on the body, the OC added.

Akkelpur Muktiyoddha Sangsad Commander Nabibur Rahman said Mozahar had been suffering from depression for the last three years.

CASES FOR KILLING ANSAR, TORCHING POLLING CENTRES

8 Jamaat-Shibir men sent to jail on surrender in Dinajpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Eight Jamaat-Shibir men, accused in the cases for killing an ansar and torching polling centres in Parbatipur upazila of the district during the parliamentary elections on January 5, 2014, were sent to jail yesterday.

They surrendered to the District and Sessions Judge's Court and sought bail. Judge Hossain Shaheed Ahmed rejected their bail prayers and sent them to jail.

The accused Jamaat-Shibir men are Nabib Uddin, Najem Uddin, Kuddus Ali, Meher Ali, Johor Ali, Abdur Razzak, Nasim Hossain and Moazzem Hossain.


Police said the Jamaat-Shibir men killed an on-duty Ansar at a polling centre and set fire to 34 centres in the upazila on the polling day.

Later, presiding officer of the respective polling centres filed the cases with Parbatipur Police Station, accusing over 5,000 BNP and Jamaat Shibir men.



PHOTO: STAR

A three-day science and technology fair organised by Thakurgaon district administration saw inauguration on the Zila Parishad auditorium premises yesterday.



KRISHI GOBESHONA FOUNDATION

AIC Building (3rd Floor, Room no. 421),
BARC Complex, Farmgate, Dhaka-1215

Request for EoI for the Executive Director

Krishi Gobeshona Foundation (KGF) is a government sponsored non-profit organization registered in 2007 with Certificate of Incorporation from the Joint Stock Companies & Firms. KGF, as a grant making organization, is responsible for management of short and long term research programs, providing technical and financial support to priority agricultural research & development (R&D) activities and improvement of research capacity both in terms of human resources development (HRD) and research facility enhancement. It serves as a pluralistic entity where public, private and NGOs have access to participate for creating an enabling research & development environment.

- Duties and responsibilities:**
 - The Executive Director shall be responsible for overall function of the Foundation within the framework of Memorandum and Articles of Association of KGF and will be accountable to Board of Directors (BoDs).
 - Thus, he/she shall:
 - Act as The Chief Executive Officer and be responsible for overall management of KGF covering many aspects including personnel and fund management to ensure efficient and cordial working environment;
 - Act as Principal Accounting Officer of the Foundation, formulate annual budget for approval of the BoDs, prepare financial statements and keep records for auditing in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and present those to General Body (GB) and BoDs;
 - Act as Member-Secretary (non-voting) to the Foundation, and by virtue of this, he will record minutes of the meetings of GB and BoDs. Keep track of, and supervise follow up actions/implementation of decisions, maintain liaison with BARC, and Ministries including concerned agencies, donor and intellectual scientific professionals, and represent Foundation in any forum where his representative is not acceptable;
 - Coordinate with Fiscal Agent/Fund management (or any name to be determined by the authority) of the Bangladesh Krishi Gobeshona Endowment Trust (BKGET) formed under the Ministry of Agriculture;
 - With the consent of BoDs, delegate in writing, specified powers to any officer, employee or agent of the Foundation;
 - Organize grants under CGP to the qualified organizations or entities in Bangladesh or individuals working in any institution as specified in the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Foundation;
 - Draw, endorse, sign, accept or negotiate business paper and other negotiable instruments, as may be required with the approval of the BoDs of KGF;
 - Comply with any other duty assigned by the BoDs and handle any issue arising during implementation of functions of the Foundation by himself/herself at the very outset, as far as possible, within his power, or else bring it to the notice of the BoDs.
- Qualification and Experiences:**
 - Qualification:** Ph.D degree in any discipline of agricultural sciences from a reputed university with good academic record up to Postgraduate level having no 3rd Division/Class at any stage.
 - Experience:**
 - Must have proven excellent management and leadership skills with 15 years of experience in research and project management as top executive (grade 2-3), with 30 years of total research experience;
 - Demonstrated experience of supervisory role in project preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation including innovative/creative research initiative;
 - Experience of coordinating contract research in the NARS institutes and beyond;
 - Reasonable level of experience in fund management and Human resources management;
 - Demonstrated amicable interpersonal communication skills and proven capability of commanding confidence and respect of staff;
 - Should have at least 35 publications in referred journals;
- Terms and conditions of the appointment:**
 - Age of the candidate should not exceed 61 years on the last date (10 February 2016) of submission of application;
 - Applicants should have Computer literacy and English proficiency.
 - Interested candidates are requested to submit their Curriculum Vitae along with a separate 1-2 page document stating why he/she is interested to work for the Foundation and justifying his/her suitability for the position.
 - The BoDs of the Foundation has established a Search Committee that will prepare a short list of candidates from those applying for the position. The candidates in the short list will be invited to appear before the Search Committee for an interview. The Search Committee will make recommendation to the BoDs.
 - The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all of the EoIs without assigning any reason thereby.
- Application deadline**
 - Applications must reach by **10 February 2016 before 05:00 p.m. to: The Chairman, Search Committee, Krishi Gobeshona Foundation (KGF), AIC Building (3rd Floor, Room no. 421), BARC Complex, Farmgate, Dhaka-1215.**

Dr. Kazi M. Kamaruddin
Executive Director, KGF and
Member Secretary, Search Committee.