

Failed chairman candidate lifts road bricks earlier set by him

Local administration stops the callous act within hours

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Bogra*

The local administration stopped brick lifting by men of a defeated union parishad (UP) chairman candidate from a village road in Sadar union of Dupchanchia upazila under the district on Tuesday.

Abu Sayeed Fakir, Awami League (AL) nominated candidate for the May 28 union parishad (UP) election, set bricks on around 250-metre earthen road at Kamar village in Sadar union, as the locals assured voting in favour of him, said locals and upazila officials.

But Sayeed, also president of AL's Sadar union unit, was defeated in the UP election and apparently due to his grievance over the matter, he ordered his men to remove the bricks from the road on Tuesday morning.

Informed, Dupchanchia upazila nirbahi officer (UNO) Shahed Parvez asked the upazila engineer of LGED to look into the matter.

The engineer sent a surveyor of the office to the spot and the latter found Sayeed's men lifting bricks from the road.

Then the upazila administration stopped the act in the afternoon.

Five months ago, Abu



PHOTO: STAR

Ordered by a defeated union parishad chairman candidate, his men remove bricks earlier set at his own cost on an earthen road at Kamar village in Sadar union of Dupchanchia upazila under Bogra district on Tuesday. The upazila administration stopped the callous act in the afternoon the same day.

Sayeed Fakir, a ward member under the UP, became the acting chairman after the arrest of UP Chairman Moazzem Hossain, sources said.

Around two months ago, he set bricks at his own cost on a portion of the earthen road at the village two and a half kilometres from Dupchanchia Sadar, said a few locals including Ali Mondal, Shajena Khatun and Huda Mia.

But he got angry after his defeat in the UP election and decided to remove bricks from the 250-metre road, they said.

This correspondent tried several times to contact Abu Sayeed Fakir for his comment over cell phone but it remained off.

Alamgir Hossain, an activist of Sayeed, said, "The people cheated our leader. They did not cast vote in favour of him although he

started development work in the area."

Contacted, Dupchanchia UNO Shahed Parvez said, "Following investigation report from LGED engineer Nur-e-Alam Siddiki, the brick lifting was stopped on Tuesday afternoon."

After bricks are set on a public road, they become government property and so, none can remove those, he added.

Only Tk 58cr

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poverty line.

The six other ministries are --- Ministry of Primary and Mass Education, Ministry of Education Ministry, Ministry of Social Welfare, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, Local Government and Rural Development and Co-operatives, and Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief.

Social welfare ministry which runs shelter homes, children development (correctional facilities) centres, orphanages and programmes for children with disability and street children received an allocation of Tk 42.73 billion.

Of the allocation, 18.61 percent will be spent in programmes focusing on children.

During the last five years, the average allocation for the ministry was 0.20 percent of the gross domestic product (GDP) and 1 percent of the total outlay.

The report observed that many small overlapping social protection programmes, which were implemented by a number of ministries and divisions, had little impact on the targeted population.

Lack of coordination among the authorities concerned was also pointed out in the report.

The Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, which works for establishing child rights and ensuring child protection and development, will spend 38.4 percent of it's

Tk 21.51 crore budget. It was 33.39 percent of the ministry's budget last year.

Out of the seven ministries, primary and mass education ministry has the highest proportion -- 99.4 percent -- of its budgetary allocation for children while local government and rural development ministry has the lowest -- 10.03 percent.

Housewife hacked to death over dowry in Sylhet

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Moulvibazar*

A housewife was hacked to death allegedly by her husband for dowry at Islampur village in Golapganj upazila of Sylhet district on Wednesday.

The deceased is Mayarun Begum, 25, daughter of Akkas Ali of Kandigram village in Sadar upazila.

Family sources said Borhan Uddin, 30, son of Monnaf Uddin of Islampur village in Golapganj upazila, married Mayarun four years ago.

A year after their marriage, Borhan used to torture Mayarun for dowry.

On Wednesday night, the couple engaged in an altercation over the issue. At one stage, Borhan killed his wife, alleged the victim's mother.

The body was sent to Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy, said police.

Borhan went into hiding soon after the incident, said AKM Fazlul Haque Shibly, officer-in-charge of Golapganj Police Station.

Three kids of a family drown in pond

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Tangail*

Three kids of a family drowned in a pond in Bhuapur upazila of the district yesterday.

The deceased are Moriom, 4, daughter of Rohiz Uddin of Bilchapa village, and Rohiz's elder brother Moteab Hossain's daughters Sadia, 4, and Atia, 3.

Locals and family sources said the three fell into the pond near their house while playing on its bank and drowned in the afternoon.

Later, locals recovered the bodies from the pond.

Post-poll violence leaves 50 hurt in Habiganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Moulvibazar*

At least 50 people were injured in post-UP poll violence at Kanaipur village in Nabiganj upazila of Habiganj district on Wednesday night.

Locals said the incident took place when the supporters of two defeated member candidates --Faraj Ali and Billal Mia--locked in an altercation over the defeat of their candidates in the election held on May 28.

Of the injured, 15 were admitted to Habiganj Sadar Hospital, 21 to Nabiganj Health Complex and five to different private hospitals.

Officer-in-Charge Abdul Baten of Nabiganj Police Station quoted locals as

saying that the two groups swooped on each other with sharp weapons and bamboo sticks, leaving at least 50 people from both sides injured.

On information, police went to the spot, fired several rubber bullets and teargas-shells to disperse the feuding groups, the OC said, adding that additional police have been deployed in the area to avert further incident.

Away in Mymensingh, three people, including a local Awami League leader, were beaten up allegedly by their party rivals in Muktagachha upazila the same night.

The victim, Ali Emdad, 55, president of Banshati union unit of AL, his nephew Rubel Hossain, 34,

and Borhan Uddin, 35, were admitted to Muktagachha Upazila Health Complex.

Emdad and Rubel were later shifted to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital as their condition deteriorated.

Quoting locals, police said a group allegedly loyal to defeated AL nominated chairman candidate Ujjal Chandra swooped on Emdad with bamboo and wooden sticks and beat him up while he was taking tea at a stall around 10:30pm, leaving him injured.

Rubel and Borhan received injuries when they tried to save Emdad from the attackers, Officer-in-Charge Abu Mohammad Fazlul Karim of Muktagachha Police Station said.

8 AL rebel candidates expelled

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Dinajpur*

Gangachara upazila unit of Awami League in Rangpur district expelled eight rebel chairman candidates in union parishad election for violating party's instructions.

Election in nine union parishads of the upazila will be held tomorrow.

The expelled candidates are Moniruzzaman Chowdhury and Debdul

Roy of Betgari union, Abdur Rouf and Abu Tayem Chowdhury of Kolkonda union, advocate Redwanul Haque Rasel of Borobil union, Foysal Hasan of Laxmitari union, Zillur Rahman of Morneya union and Sadequul Islam of Alambitor union.

Sayedul Islam, joint convener of Gangachara upazila unit of AL, said they expelled the eight party men for contesting in the UP election in violation of party decision.

Mobile bills to go up

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updating their billing system.

"We have started implementing the order and it will be effective from zero hour of June 3," said Mahmud Hossain, chief corporate affairs officer at Grameenphone.

Other carriers as well took preparation to charge subscribers extra.

They would also send texts to their customers within a short time, they said.

The proposed duty will implicate voice calls, internet, SMS and MMS services and any service related to SIM cards.

At present, there is a 3 percent supplementary duty on all kinds of mobile services; the finance minister proposed to increase it to 5 percent.

Carriers said this move would have a negative impact on their earnings and hurt their expansion plans.

"There is no doubt that users will reduce their mobile use, if this tax is implemented," said a top official of a leading carrier.

TIM Nurul Kabir, secretary general of Association of Mobile Telecom Operators of Bangladesh, said it would be a setback for the government's digitisation process.

"The mobile operators play an important role in building a digital country. And here, we see that the government either imposes a new tax or hikes it every year," he added.

He demands comprehensive taxation and a full withdrawal of supplementary duties on mobile use; otherwise, users will lose affordability.

Sadia Sharmin, a student of ULAB University, said

using a mobile phone gets more and more expensive every year. "The way calls and data usage are taxed is confusing as well. There should be a limit to the tax on calls and internet."

In his budget speech, Finance Minister AMA Muhith yesterday said the government reduced the SIM tax to Tk 100 from Tk 300 in fiscal 2015-16, which resulted in a reduction in revenue from this sector.

"In order to enhance revenue collection from this sector, I am proposing to increase the rate of supplementary duty on SIM card related services from 3 percent to 5 percent," he said.

Muhith had proposed a 5 percent supplementary duty on all kinds of earnings related to SIM cards last year as well; but he reduced it by 2 percentage points in the face of widespread criticism.

The government also proposed a 1 percent surcharge on mobile phone use in the budget for 2014-15, which was implemented in March this year.

If this proposal is accepted, users will have to pay 15 percent VAT on total use, 5 percent supplementary duty and then 1 percent surcharge on top of that. In other words, users have to pay a total of Tk 121.96 to take a service of Tk 100 from carriers.

Or, customers can enjoy only Tk 82 of their Tk 100 top up, which is Tk 83.59 at present.

An official of Grameenphone said this hike would burden the customers even more.

"The mobile phone industry in Bangladesh is highly taxed; taxing it any further will disrupt its role in building a Digital Bangladesh," said Mahmud

Hossain.

Ekram Kabir, vice-president of communications and corporate responsibility at Robi, said Bangladesh remains the lowest in ARPU (average revenue per user) in the world.

"With the increased levy, mobile phone costs will increase, which will affect our subscribers. We forecast that overall revenue will decline as voice and data use could ease off following the tax hike. We would request the government to roll back the supplementary duty."

As of April, there are 13.2 crore active mobile connections, of which, 5.87 crore are also connected to the internet, according to Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission.

Total revenue in the market currently stands at around Tk 25,000 crore.

Sixteen groups
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lauded the stunning successes of the government under the dynamic leadership of Hasina.

Praising the growing trend of trade and commerce between Bangladesh and Australia, he said the business figure now stands at \$1.7 billion, up from \$800 million just five years ago.

He stressed the need for boosting cooperation between the two countries on sports and said Australian Cricket Board wants to assist the BKSP to further develop it.

In this connection, he said Australian cricket board was working with BCB for a tour of Australian national team to Bangladesh.

Greg expressed gratitude to Hasina for extending cooperation in discharging his duties during his tenure in Bangladesh.



PHOTO: STAR

The forest department officials rescued these wild birds, among over 4,000 others of the kind, from captivity at a depot in Kachua upazila under Bagerhat district yesterday morning. The birds were later released to the Sundarbans the same day.

Girl saved from early marriage

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Dinajpur*

A schoolgirl was saved from underage marriage in Phulbari upazila of Dinajpur yesterday.

The girl, Kulsum Akhter, 13, daughter of Mozafar Hossain of Kanahardangapara village in the upazila, is a Class VIII student of GM Pilot High School.

The marriage was scheduled to be held yesterday.

Being informed, Mohsin Mridha, assistant commissioner of land in the upazila, went to her house at around 12:00 noon and foiled the marriage. He also asked Md Shakhawat Hossain, the local marriage registrar, to look after the girl.

Rekha Begum, mother of the girl, said she wanted to marry-off her daughter early because her husband has been suffering from many diseases. "I spent a lot of money for that," she said, adding that she would not marry-off her daughter until she was an adult.

The groom was supposed to arrive there after 3:00pm, but the family members of the girl told them not to come. They refused to disclose details of the groom.

BGMEA building

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scheme.

Dhaka's master plan earmarks the Begunbari canal as a natural water body and a designated flood flow zone, prohibiting any change to its character.

The much-hyped Hatirjheel-Begunbari integrated development scheme was opened in January 2013 with the illegal building standing boldly right in the middle of the Begunbari canal.

Terming the SC order a historic decision, lawyer Manzill, who was as an amicus curiae (friend of court) in the hearing of the case at the HC, said the people's confidence in rule of law will be enhanced following the SC order, as they will now feel that nobody is above the law.

Syeda Rizwana Hasan, chief executive of Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association, told this correspondent that the SC order will help speed up the water body protection movement from landgrabbers.

The apex court order is a big milestone against the culture of impunity in the society, she added.

The HC in 2011 said the records submitted by the office of deputy commissioner of Dhaka proved that the land was acquired for the then East Bengal Railway in 1910 and it was in the possession of the

Bangladesh Railway until 2006.

The railway authorities handed over the land to the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) in 2006. Surprisingly, it was found in the documents submitted by the BGMEA that it purchased the land from the EPB in 2001.

The HC delivered the judgment after hearing a suo moto rule issued by another HC bench taking cognizance of a newspaper report in October 2010.

The full text of the HC judgment, released in March 2013, observed that the BGMEA building stood in Hatirjheel project "like a cancerous growth" and structures like these would swamp the whole city unless the building was removed forthwith.

The court also ordered the authorities to pull the building down and use the land in the public interest and directed the BGMEA to provide refunds to the people who bought floor spaces in the building.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina during her first tenure laid the foundation stone of the BGMEA building in November 1998, while former premier Khaleda Zia inaugurated the building in October 2006.

Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha (Rajuk) issued land use clearance while the Department of Environment issued envi-

ronmental clearance and Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (Wasa) clearance for the building in the canal. Civil Aviation Authorities also issued the height clearance.

Besides those clearances, the BGMEA authorities needed to obtain building approval from Rajuk, which they did not. Rajuk only served one notice on the BGMEA authorities about this in more than a decade of the building's existence.

Various environmental and civic groups time and again demanded that the government take steps to knock the illegal BGMEA building down.

BGMEA's lawyer barrister Rafique-ul Huq said, "I personally feel that demolition of the BGMEA building will have a very bad effect on the garment sector and the economy of the country, as the economy depends on the garment industry."

The Supreme Court said the water body, where the BGMEA building was constructed, was filled up in violation of the wetlands conservation act.

During yesterday's hearing, it also asked Attorney General Mahbub Alam how the Rajuk let the BGMEA fill up the water body.

The attorney general said he did not know about it and he had no argument in this regard.

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Procurement Division
Procurement & Logistic Support Directorate

Ref. No: DACPP/RFP/10/Airbus A310-300 Spares, Tools & Test Bench/2015-16 Date: 02.06.2016

RFP for Sale of Airbus A310-300 Aircraft Spares, Tools & Test Bench

RFPs (Request for Proposal) are hereby invited for sale of following Airbus A310-300 Spares, Tools & Test Bench on serviceable condition:

Lot No.	Description of Items
01.	Airbus A310-300 Aircraft Rotatable Spare Parts Qty-1,370 line items. Total-01 LOT. (As Per Schedule).
02.	Airbus A310-300 Aircraft Consumable Spare Parts Qty-4,769 & Airbus A310-300 Aircraft Shop Consumable Spare Parts Qty-1,827 line items. Total- 01 LOT. (As Per Schedule).
03.	Airbus A310-300 Aircraft Tools & Test Bench Qty-62 line items. Total- 01 LOT. (As Per Schedule).

RFP schedule will be available in Biman website: www.biman-airlines.com which is to be downloaded and submitted along with the offer. Detail technical status of Aircraft Spares, Tools & Test Bench items will also be available in the Biman website.

To visit the Aircraft Spares, Tools & Test Bench as per requirement of CAAB for permission of visit please submit 02 copies of NID and 02 copies of PP size photo (attached) within 19.06.2016 to MGR Commercial Stores for taking permission from CAAB.

Intending bidders may visit the items mentioned in the schedule on 27 June 2016 at 11:00 hrs. upon contact with: Manager Commercial Stores, Biman Admin. Building, HSIA, Dhaka.

The Proposal/Offer may be submitted/dropped into the Box placed in the Office of the Manager Commercial Stores, P&LS Directorate, Biman Admin. Building, 1st Floor, Room No. 205, Kurmitola, Dhaka-1229, Bangladesh latest by 11:30 hrs. (BST) (0500 hrs. UTC) on 29 June 2015. RFPs through Courier Service or mail to: ops@biman.com will also be accepted but no offers shall be accepted after closing time and date. The Proposal(s)/Offer(s) will be opened on the same day at 14:00 hrs. (BST) (0830 hrs. UTC) in presence of the Bidder(s) if any in tender room of Procurement & Logistic Support Directorate.

Biman Bangladesh Airlines Ltd. reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the Proposals/Offer(s) at any time and/or stage without assigning any reason, whatsoever.

A. B. M. Alamgir
Manager Commercial Stores

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