



Grabbers gradually closing in on their aim to occupy as much as possible of the main channel of the river Bangshi after already encroaching on its bank. They continue to do so by dumping waste and building illegal structures along its bank. The photo was taken near Nama Bazaar in Savar recently.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

NOW DEFUNCT ORIENTAL BANK Six ex-officials jailed for Tk 4cr fraud

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday sentenced six former officials of now defunct Oriental Bank Limited for misappropriating Tk 4 crore from the bank with fake documents.

Five of them were sentenced to 68 years in prison while another was sentenced to 34 years in jail in four cases filed against them.

Shah Mohammad Harun, former senior vice president of the bank; Abul Kashem Mahmud Ullah, former senior assistant vice president; Md Fazlur Rahman, former assistant vice president; Mahmud Hossain, former senior assistant vice president; and Quamrul Islam, former executive vice-president got 68 years in prison, while Md Torikul Alam, former executive officer of Oriental Bank, was sentenced to 34 years and also fined Tk 2 crore.

Judge Md Akhteruzzaman of the Special Judge Court-5 of Dhaka also fined the five Tk 4 crore each in the four cases.

The court also sentenced Salauddin, proprietor of M/S Afazuddin Traders, to 17 years in jail and fined Tk 1 crore for assisting the accused in the graft.

Meanwhile, Md Imamul Haque, former deputy managing director of the bank, was acquitted of all charges for a lack of evidence.

As all the convicts have been shown fugitives, the punishment will be effective from the day of their arrest or surrender, the court said.

Only Imamul Haque was present at the court during yesterday's verdict.

The court directed the district magistrate of Dhaka to issue an arrest warrant against the fugitives and to take an initiative for recovery of the fine by selling their attached properties.

In 2006, the then Anti-Corruption Commission filed four cases against the accused with Motijheel Police Station.

The case statement said the six accused together misappropriated Tk 4 crore from the bank, impersonating themselves as owners of four agencies, which were apparently fake.

The anti graft watchdog pressed charges against them in January 2013.

Shopkeeper sent to jail for verbally

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when she was going to another shop without buying clothes from him. Matin was also about to assault her physically, she complained. Police officials, including Assistant Commissioners of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, Mirpur Circle, Sazzad Rayhan and Syed Mamun Mostafa, and Officer-in-Charge of Mirpur Police Station Md Nazrul have been lauded on social media for taking prompt action.

SHAMAN 'RAPES' WOMAN

A 25-year-old woman was allegedly raped in Kulaura upazila of Moulvibazar early yesterday by a shaman. Police arrested the alleged rapist, Manik Mia, a resident of Purbo Photikuli village in the same upazila.

Known as Manik Kobiraj, he tricked the woman into a secluded place in the dead of night with assurance that he would recover her stolen mobile phone, said the victim. When she went there alone, Manik dragged her into nearby bushes and raped her, she said. Locals rescued her after hearing her screams.

Police arrest 11 robbers after 999 call

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"They beat up my family members and looted valuable items including cash and gold jewelry. Police were able to arrest them while they were crossing Cholti River in Torunisha area in the same Upazila," he said.

Wadud Mia, a family member of Julhas said, "We called the emergency hotline 999 and informed police about the robbery."

Dhanpur Union Parishad Chairman Rafiqul Islam Talukdar confirmed the incident saying, "There was a large amount of money stocked at Julha's house to pay for the making of boats. The robbers somehow came to know of the news and tried to rob

him. Police managed to arrest the robbers with the help of locals."

Md Asaduzzaman, Officer-in-Charge of Jagannathpur police station said, "We managed to catch the robbers while they were trying to escape, thanks to receiving the information on the emergency help line."

The arrestees were wanted in other robbery cases with the police station, he said.

Sanjay Sarkar, Additional Superintendent of Police (Sunamganj) said his team recovered the cash stolen from Julha's house. They also recovered a gold chain, two mobile phones, two daggers, three knives and sharp weapons.

Initiatives

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He was talking to reporters at a views-exchange meeting at its headquarters in the capital's Banasree. This was made possible for various people friendly steps to facilitate safe and hassle-free travelling to and from all the tourist spots in the country, the DIG said.

If tourists do not get due hotel benefits from travel agencies and the hotel managements, they can complain to Tourist Police who takes necessary steps.

The DIG said Tourist Police also take the responsibility if tourists face any trouble like theft or hijacking in any tourist zone.

If a valuable is stolen, one has to inform them and then they will contact the police stations concerned to file a general diary on behalf of the tourist, the DIG added.

Besides, different mobile apps, help-line and information centres are being developed for providing multifaceted services to tourists.

Emergency ward failing in its purpose

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another doctor of the ward, but five of the posts have remained vacant for the last two years.

"This means we have to take a double workload, and we work round the clock to attend to the patients, but still it is not enough," he added.

About the equipment, a medical staffer said the ward has only five trolleys, which is inadequate.

"If a trolley is occupied to transfer a patient to the fourth floor of the hospital, it will take 10 minutes to return and take another on board, which means

critical patients queue up, hence prompt treatment is delayed," the staffer said, seeking anonymity.

Dr Md Bakir Hossain, the recently appointed director of SBMCH, said the crisis in the emergency ward has been taken into cognisance and will be addressed accordingly.

"SBMCH is the only state-run specialised hospital in the division, and its emergency ward needs immediate attention. We are working to get it into shape to serve our patients better," he said.

"We cannot increase the number of doctors beyond 10 in our emergency

ward unless we have an instruction from the government," he added.

Meanwhile, Dr Md Mahbubur Rahman, the divisional director of Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) in Barisal, said the hospital has a crisis of doctors which needs to be resolved immediately.

"We will try to fill the vacant posts as soon as possible, and we hope to recruit from the 36th BCS (Bangladesh Civil Service) batch."

About the equipment and other essentials, the authorities said they will look into the matter and take appropriate steps as soon as possible.

Celebrating Life 2018 contest launched

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aspects of the competition.

Stressing the need for promoting the native culture more, he said the country's rich history of architecture is not as familiar as of music, dance and drama.

Naser Ezaz Bijoy, CEO of Standard Chartered Bank (SCB), Bangladesh, said SCB has been with the initiative since its inception to pave the way for

the young generation to nurture their latent talents in those fields.

Last year, the theme was "Celebrating Diversity of Bangladesh" and the winners were Salma Moon (lyrics), Hasan Mahmud Prottoy (photography) and Nuhas Humayun (film).

This year, Celebrating Life contest will honour the personalities, who have been involved in filmmaking or

television production, photography, music and lyrics writing for decades, with Lifetime Achievement Awards through a gala event.

The contest's Event Director Rafi Hossain, Country Head of Corporate Affairs of SCB, Bangladesh Bitopi Das Chowdhury and lyricist Mohammad Rafiquzzaman were present at the press conference.

BCL expulsion draws flak

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received the same punishment though she was staying inside her room during the incident, confirmed several resident students of the hall on condition of anonymity.

Meanwhile, BCL expelled some students showing them as BCL activists, but those students do not have any affiliation with the organisation.

Nusrat Mithila does not hold any post in the organisation, but surprisingly she has been expelled from the organisation. Sanam Shitih and Anamika Das were two other students who do not hold any BCL post either.

Talking to The Daily Star, some of the expelled BCL leaders claimed that the organisation did not probe the incident properly and expelled them as per Isha's wish.

They claimed that Isha had intentionally put those names out of personal grudge as they were followers of Khaleda Hossain Moon and that Isha had personal conflict with her.

Some resident students of the hall alleged that Isha had been torturing the students for taking part in the quota reform protest since beginning of the movement.

This correspondent repeatedly tried to reach BCL President Saifur Rahman Sohag and General Secretary SM Jakir Hossain over the phone last night, but they did not pick up the phone. At one point, Jakir's phone was found switched off.

He then tried to contact Dhaka University unit of BCL President Abid Ali Hasan and General Secretary Motaheer Hossain Prince, but they did not pick up the phone either.

EC snubs

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Replying to a query, Mosharraf said they urged the commission to take steps so that no lawmaker and minister can seek vote anywhere in the country in favour of boat (symbol of Awami League) as it is the violation of electoral code of conduct.

The other members of the delegation included party stranding committee members Dr Abdul Moyeen Khan, Nazrul Islam Khan and Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury, and vice-chairman Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges
Road Transport and Highways Division
Admin Section
www.rthd.gov.bd

Memo no. 35.00.0000.041.30.015.16-178

Date: 16/04/2018

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