

SAAF donates medical equipment to icddr,b

CITY DESK

Suhana & Anis Ahmed Foundation (SAAF) has donated new medical equipment worth Tk 30 lakh to icddr,b to boost its effort in providing diarrhoeal disease and malnutrition treatment for free.

icddr,b provides free treatment to over 200,000 vulnerable people every year, said a press release.

The medical equipment include portable X-ray machine, infusion pump, cardiac monitor, defibrillator machine, GlideScope/video laryngoscope, ECG machine, crash carts, pulse oximeters (robust version), non-contact thermometers, digital BP machine, oxygen flow meter, AMBU bag. These will be used at icddr,b's Dhaka Hospital (formerly Cholera Hospital) at Mohakhali.

Suhana & Anis Ahmed Foundation commenced its journey in 2009 to bring positive social changes.

This park

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Khorshed Alam Sujan, who took over as administrator of CCC in August last year. Right after taking charge, Sujan visited the park on August 25. He said he felt bad seeing the sad state of things at Biplab Udayan.

Within a couple of days, the city corporation organised a public hearing, inviting citizens, activists, journalists and more to come forward with their complaints about the park.

The participants outright said the park “has been ruined”, in the name of development. It has no natural environment, but instead of working on that, “development” meant narrowing down walkways to make room for shops, they alleged.

They blamed this on the commercial attitude of the previous CCC administration, saying that they were responsible for putting profits before the recreational needs of the city's people.

Sujan admitted to the truth of the allegations when talking to The Daily Star yesterday. “Though the agreement allows 20 shops, there are five more at the park. Moreover, some of them are even building first floors, in violation of the agreement.”

“In light of this,” Sujan continued, “We initiated demolition of the illegal structures, but the contractors have taken it to the court to resist us.”

“There are more irregularities involved,” the administrator said. “For example, the Tk 100 crore-property is being leased for a meagre Tk one lakh per year.”

As a new mayor was elected, Sujan was discharged from the post of CCC administrator on February 1. CCC chief executive officer Kazi Mohammad Mozammel Hoque has taken charge until the newly elected mayor takes over.

The Daily Star tried to contact him over phone but he could not comment on the matter as he is ill with Covid-19.

Former mayor AJM Nasir Uddin could not be reached despite multiple attempts.

Contacted, newly elected CCC mayor Rezaul Karim Chowdhury said he would look into the matter after taking over responsibilities.

BNP

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overcoming the adverse effects of coronavirus pandemic.

He said the government is continuing its multifaceted initiatives for the repatriation of the Rohingyas.

The government is keeping an eye on the incidents after the seizure of power by military in Myanmar, he added.

Quader hoped the international community will further strengthen its efforts for repatriation of the Myanmar nationals to their homeland from Bangladesh considering the depth of the issue.

He said a vested quarter is still creating confusion over the vaccines.

He urged people not to pay heed to rumours and propaganda over the vaccine.

The AL general secretary called upon leaders and workers of the party and its associate and like-minded bodies to hold discussions, rallies, representatives’ meetings and campaigns marking the golden jubilee of independence and Mujib Borsho from February 15.

ACC presses charges against GK Shamim, Salim Prodhan

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Anti-Corruption Commission has pressed charges against expelled Jubo League leader GK Shamim and online casino “kingpin” Salim Prodhan in two separate corruption cases.

GK Shamim, also a top contractor of government projects, and his mother Ayesha Akhter were charged for acquiring illegal wealth worth Tk 300 crore.

ACC Deputy Director Md Salahuddin, investigation officer of the case, on Thursday submitted the charge sheet to the Senior Special Judge's Court of Dhaka, court sources said.

On October 21 in 2019, the ACC filed the case against Golam Kibria Shamim alias GK Shamim and his mother for accumulating illegal wealth worth Tk 297 crore. Later the commission, during its investigation, found they were involved in amassing wealth of Tk 300 crore.

On September 20 in 2019, Rab arrested GK Shamim with a huge amount of cash and fixed deposit receipts and seven bodyguards at his Niketan office, Dhaka.

Meanwhile, the anti-graft watchdog the same day charged Salim Prodhan over amassing Tk 57.79 crore illegally and laundering about Tk 22 crore to Thailand and the US.

ACC Deputy Director Gulshan Anwar Pradhan, IO of the case, submitted the charge sheet to the Senior Special Judge's Court of Dhaka.

Salim, who came to the fore in 2019 when law enforcers conducted drives against illegal casino business, allegedly amassed the wealth from online casino business, say investigators.

Salim was arrested in a Bangkok-bound Thai Airways flight at Dhaka airport on September 30 in 2019.

Later that night, Rab raided his office and residence in Gulshan and arrested his associates Akhtaruzzaman, Roman and Masum.



GK Shamim



Salim Prodhan

Municipality polls posters put to good use in Savar

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

As is the scene after any election, the streets and dustbins of Savar were filled with discarded election materials used for the recently concluded municipality polls.

The regular way of dealing with such posters and festoons is to dump or burn them. But both of them are harmful for the environment, said representatives of Savar Cantonment Public School and College's student organisation -- named We Are SCPSCIAN.

Instead, the organisation gathered the junk and made educational materials out of them. They then proceeded to distribute the produce -- exercise books and bags -- along with pens and packets of food among 50 disadvantaged children of the area yesterday.

All of the children are students of “JABIF Pathshala”, operated by Jagrata Bibek Foundation, a nonprofit organisation.

“We are trying to maximise the use of these materials by recycling them, and minimising the environmental impact as a result,” said Prince Ghosh, member and volunteer of the organisation.

They said they took the initiative on the occasion of the 44th anniversary of Savar Cantonment Public School and College.

President of Jagrata Bibek Foundation Monimukta said, “Our students are happy to have received the gifts, but are also delighted to know they're part of doing something for the environment.”

Health secy's village home

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community clinic was being constructed. But people loyal to local lawmaker Nur Mohammad alleged that the lawmaker, also hailing from the same village, was not informed, according to locals.

The health secretary went to his village home on Friday night and visited the under-construction clinic at around 11:00am yesterday.

Around 20 people went to the spot and asked Mannan to stop the construction work. When the health secretary wanted to know the reason, they said the lawmaker was not aware of the clinic. An altercation occurred with the health secretary and at one stage, these men left the scene, said locals.

The men returned, equipped with sticks, at around 12:40pm. They started making abusive comments at the health secretary and drove away the construction workers.

Later, these men went to the health secretary's home and when assistant commissioner (land) Ashraf Alam came forward to talk to them, they allegedly attacked him.

Ashraf, who sustained injuries to his leg, took primary treatment at Katiadi Upazila Health Complex, said Kishoreganj Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Shamim Alam, who also visited the spot soon after the incident.

On information, police rushed to the spot and the situation was brought under control, said OC of Katiadi Police Station MA Jalil who was at the spot. A team of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) also reached the spot.

Contacted, MP Nur Mohammad said he was at a meeting at upazila headquarters during the incident. “Village people asked me on several occasions about the construction of the clinic but I could not answer as I knew nothing about it,” said the lawmaker.

“I asked the Kishoreganj Civil Surgeon and Katiadi Upazila Health and Family Planning Officer about it yesterday [Friday] and they informed me that a clinic is being constructed,” he said.

A government official cannot do this according to his will, said the lawmaker. He also claimed that an incident of altercation might have occurred.

There had been a reaction among the village people, including local party leaders and activists, and they might have gone to the spot, added the lawmaker.

The Daily Star attempted to contact Health Secretary Abdul Mannan several times, but he did not respond to calls or text messages.

No case was lodged and none was detained as of filing this report, said Katiadi Police Station OC.

Tragedy during

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Police said Riad, along with some of his friends, were returning to Madaripur by a bus after visiting Kuakata sea beach.

When their bus reached Lebukhali ferry terminal around 10:00pm, Riad got down from the vehicle to take a stroll.

At that time, Kuakata-bound bus Kuakata Express from Dhaka was getting off a ferry. All of a sudden, it ran over Riad, leaving him dead on the spot.

Police later seized the bus, but its driver and his helper managed to escape, said Mehedi Hasan, OC of Dumki Police Station.

Tigers seven

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resumed the fourth day on 47 for three in their second innings before skipper Mominul Haque went on to register his tenth Test ton, going past Tamim Iqbal's nine hundreds and becoming the Bangladeshi with the most Test centuries.

It was Mominul's seventh Test century in Chattogram and he eventually departed after scoring 115 off 182 balls, a knock that featured ten fours. The hosts declared their second innings on 223 for eight in the last session of the day, posting a huge target of 395 runs.

With the highest successful chase at the ZACS in Tests being 317, the visitors will have to make history to win this match.

Bangladesh

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He said Bangladesh is now moving forward maintaining the deep relations between the two nations. Bangladesh is now on the way of building “Sonar Bangla”, as dreamt by Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, added Hasan, also the Awami League joint general secretary.

Speaking at the event, Kolkata Press Club President Snehashish Sur said India, without the then journalists, would not have been able to know how Bangladeshis had spent their days at that time.

He said a total of 13 journalists, including the two, had sacrificed their lives during the War of Liberation in 1971 and the Press Club published a book on this issue marking the 100 years of the foundation of the club.

Later, the information minister joined a lunch and discussion, organised by banglaworld.com. BANGLADESH FILM FESTIVAL OPENED India has said its relationship with Bangladesh has withstood the test of time and both countries have “charted a unique model for regional cooperation that is quite unparalleled in South Asia”.

Family fears unfair probe

FROM PAGE 12

In 2016, it was leased out for five years to Sunoi Matsyajibi Samabay Samity, a registered cooperative established in 1976. Shyamacharan and his brother were both members of the cooperative, along with many others from their village Sunoi Jelepura.

Shyamacharan's brother Manindra Chandra Barman said, “For years, the local MP and his brothers have been controlling the fishing in local water bodies.”

“Since 2017, we have been paying them Tk 10 lakh and six percent of our profit each year to keep our cooperative fishing. But last year, we could not pay that much as we were incurring losses and that was the beginning of their intimidation.”

On September 3 last year, some unknown men launched an attack on the cooperative members to take control of the waterbody.

On December 3, the cooperative society members formed a human chain in front of the National Press Club in Dhaka and arranged a press conference, where they expressed their fear of being attacked again.

On the night of January 7 this year, a group attacked the storage sheds by the waterbody where guards would usually be posted, and torched several of these.

In the incident, Shyamacharan was hacked to death and at least 15 were injured, say locals and police.

Denying all allegations, MP Mouazzam Hossain Ratan told The Daily Star on January 25, “That night, I was in Sunamganj town where the deputy commissioner and police superintendent were also present. They can vouch for me not being involved in the murder.”

Contacted, Sunamganj Police Superintendent Md Mizanur Rahman vouched for the MP's whereabouts on the night of January 7.

The SP said, “They [Shyamacharan's family members] claimed that the MP was present on the spot that night. If we start recording cases against a person knowing he was not there, it will show a way to harass general people.”

However, the copy of the case statement that the family had prepared, seen by The Daily Star, did not mention that the MP himself was present on the spot but stated that the MP and his brothers were abettors to the murder.

Shyamacharan's son Chandan Barman said, “Police refused to record our case, filed a made-up case to save the abettors behind the murder. We understand an unfair investigation will be conducted and we will not get

justice.”

Contacted on January 25, Md Delwar Hossain, officer-in-charge of Dharmapasha Police Station, said, “The case is under investigation.”

He then hung up the call without giving any chance to ask further questions and did not pick up this correspondent's repeated calls after.

MP Mouazzam Hossain Ratan further claimed, “The murder was caused following an internal feud within the local Hindu fishermen community, and no one is connected with me or any of my brothers. BNP and Jamaat politicians are trying to frame me.”

Sunamganj Police Superintendent Md Mizanur Rahman, said, “We are investigating the case and if the investigation finds the MP's involvement in the case, we'll take legal steps. No one is above the law.”

Meanwhile, Sankhubdho Nagorik Andolon, a citizen body, organised a human chain in front of Sylhet Central Shaheed Minar on January 21, demanding justice for Shyamacharan Barman.

On January 24, Khatriya Barmans' Itihash Onushilon O Kalyan Parishad also organised a human chain in Sunamganj town's Altaf Square area, demanding justice for the community's elderly fisherman.

Myanmar ‘explains’ reasons

FROM PAGE 12

League of Democracy (NLD) that had a landslide victory in the last year's November elections.

The UN Security Council on February 4 expressed deep concern at the declaration of the state of emergency imposed in Myanmar by the military and the arbitrary detention of members of the elected government and called for the immediate release of all those detained.

The Biden administration, meanwhile, threatened sanctions on Myanmar following the coup.

The major issue for Bangladesh is Rohingya repatriation, which has not been possible over the last three years after the influx of 750,000 Rohingyas following a military crackdown in 2017.

A tripartite meeting involving China, Myanmar, and Bangladesh was scheduled on February 4, but it was postponed as contacting the Myanmar authorities following the coup was not possible.

Foreign Minister Momen said the government has learned that Myanmar military commanders have already visited the Rohingya villages in Rakhine and allayed fears that were created following the coup.

During the visit, he said, the Rohingyas shared their challenges, including of non-mobility. The new government said they will change the Rohingya situation. Hearing this, the Rohingyas in Kutupalong were happy.

“This is good news,” Momen said but added that this has to be verified.

World's tiniest reptile found

FROM PAGE 12

A joint expedition in 2012 of German and Malagasy scientists did not know whether the two specimens collected -- one female and one male -- were adults until much later, he explained.

“We found out that the female had eggs in her body, and that the male had large genitals, so it was clear that they were adults.”

Exceptionally large genitals, it turned

out, accounting for nearly 20 percent of its body size, Glaw and colleagues reported in the journal Scientific Reports.

The male's body -- about the size of a peanut -- was 13.5 millimetres long (half an inch), with the tail adding another nine millimetres.

By contrast, the female measured 29 mm from its nose to the tip of its tail.

The pair remain the only specimens of the species ever found.

University Women's Federation College

Dhanmondi, Dhaka
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Memo No. uwfc/290/21

Date : 06/02/2021

e-Tender Notice 01/2020-2021

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following package:

Sl. No.	Tender ID No.	Name of works	Last Date and Time of Tender Security Submission	Tender Closing Date & Time
1.	544821	Supplying of Fitting, Fixing and Installation of Air Condition and Cable	23-Feb-2021 2:00 pm	23-Feb-2021 3:00 pm

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copy will be accepted.

To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP Portal is required.

The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP System portal have to be deposited online through any registered Banks' Branches upto 22/02/2021, 4:00pm

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP Held Desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Ainun Nahar 06/02/21
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