

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

4-yr-old raped in Jashore

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

A four-and-a-half-year-old girl was allegedly raped by one of her neighbours in Jashore's Chaugachha upazila yesterday afternoon.

The child was undergoing treatment at Jashore Medical College Hospital.

The victim's mother said her daughter was playing near their house around 3:00pm.

At that time, her neighbour Raihan took her to his house saying that he would give her quail eggs. Raihan raped the girl there, the mother alleged.

Hearing the child screaming, her family members, along with some locals, rescued her. Accused Raihan, however, managed to flee.

The victim was admitted to Chougachha Health Complex with injuries. As her condition deteriorated, she was later shifted to Jashore Medical College Hospital.

Arif Ahmed, resident medical officer at the hospital, said medical examinations were being carried out to ascertain whether the child was raped.

Saiful Islam Sabuj, officer-in-charge of Chougachha Police Station, said they were conducting drives to nab the rape accused.

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.

Family fears unfair probe

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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 Jelepara.

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' Ithash Onushilon O Kalyan Parishad also organised a human chain in Sunamganj town's Altaf Square area, demanding justice for the community's elderly fisherman.

Bangladesh preparing to sue Al Jazeera

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event titled “Exim Bank in Mujib Birth Centenary” at the capital's Army Stadium.

Meanwhile, Planning Minister MA Mannan yesterday said the Al Jazeera report was “part of a conspiracy rooted in the country”.

“It's part of a conspiracy. Although unfortunate, it is true that the source of it [conspiracy] is in the country's soil,” the planning minister told a programme at Institution of Diploma Engineers, Bangladesh in the capital.

The event was organised by Bangabandhu Academy to commemorate late politician and constitution expert Suranjit Sengupta.

Asked if the government was considering banning Al Jazeera in Bangladesh, the foreign minister said people have already realised that the information provided by the TV channel is false.

Momen said there was no bodyguard for Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina during her 45-year political life.

“Now, the SSF [Special Security Force] provides security to her. Her bodyguards had been her leaders and activists. Maya, Saber Hossain, Tofail Ahmed, Amur Hossain Amu.”

“The Al Jazeera report said Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina had two bodyguards. Now, many are standing

behind me. We don't know all of them. When the prime minister delivers a speech, many people stand behind her. Providing photo of a person, the report said that he was the prime minister's bodyguard. This is false information.... Al Jazeera has lost its credibility by providing fabricated information, adding one with another technically.”

Momen said Bangladesh is being portrayed negatively abroad. A Google search on Bangladesh still shows photos of poor women with children working at brickfields, he added.

Bangladesh has changed now. A lot of progresses have been made, but those are not reflected in the media, the minister said.

“Our media often say many extrajudicial killings take place. There were 17 to 18 extrajudicial killings in Bangladesh last year, but we saw about 1,000 in the US,” Momen said.

Also, 85,000 rapes were committed in the USA, but it was not reported in the media, he said.

The foreign minister called upon the media to portray a positive image of Bangladesh.

Enquired if Bangladesh would investigate the corruption allegations brought against senior officials as expected by the UN, Momen said there was a Bangladeshi gentleman who

raised the question in reference to the Al Jazeera report during a UN briefing.

“Yes, it is good to have an investigation. We have no objections to that,” Momen said, adding that the UN did not contact the Bangladesh government officially for an investigation.

“If there are complaints, we will surely investigate those...if those are found to be credible, we will investigate. Otherwise, we won't.”

Talking about the Al Jazeera report, Planning Minister Mannan said it was the outcome of “cut-paste”.

Different types of enemies could be out there to do harm to Bangladesh at its current progress, he said.

Mentioning that Al Jazeera is the media wing of an oil company, the minister said, “Why would they choose our country? Its root is in the country.”

“I believe a little scratch will do no harm to the image that we have as a nation before the outer world at present,” he added.

Mannan said only two to three percent urban people were overly enthusiastic about the report while people in rural areas were not interested in it at all.

Earlier, Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader, Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan and Information Minister Hasan Mahmud blasted the Al Jazeera report.

University Women's Federation College

Dhanmondi, Dhaka
www.uwfc.edu.bd

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).


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