Ministry probe finds breach

payment for the locomotives and Railways Minister Nurul Islam Sujan in October last vear ordered an investigation into the matter.

The ministry formed a committee in late November with its Joint Secretary Faizur Rahman Faruqui as the head. But Project Director Nur Ahmed Hossain wrote to the ministry, requesting it to exclude a member from the body.

In January this year, the ministry reconstituted the committee, changing the head and excluding that particular member. Farukuzzaman, additional secretary (law and land) of the ministry, was made the committee chief.

The members of the committee include Prof Muhammed Mahbubur Razzaque of Buet's mechanical engineering department, and Tabassum Binte Islam, joint director general (mechanical) of the BR.

After missing several deadlines, the committee submitted its report early this

Meanwhile, the locomotives have been lying idle at the railways workshop for six months, at a time when the BR is struggling to run its operation with a large number of PROBE REPORT

Contacted, Farukuzzaman said they have submitted their report early this week. He declined to disclose the findings.

However, a person who is very much aware about the findings said contract deviations have been found in the supply of

the locomotives.
"Neither of the parties, including Hyundai, denied it," he told The Daily Star, wishing not to be named.

About the change in equipment, Hyundai officials told the probe committee that they have supplied "better equipment" but they did not take legal approval for it, meaning they have deviated from the contract, he said.

City

"Hyundai and the firm assigned for the pre-shipment inspection have mainly been blamed for it," he said.

Two other persons familiar with the probe findings echoed this.

Railways document shows that Hyundai supplied alternator model TA9-12CA9SE, but the agreement sought alternator model

Railways officials said the two models are different in terms of horsepower output.

Besides, as per a government plan, all the rail tracks in the country would be converted into dual gauge within a few years. The government had instructed the BR to purchase locomotives which could be used on both metre-gauge and broad-gauge by changing the undercarriages.

But with the TA9-12CA9SE alternator, the locomotives will not run on broad-gauge,

Hyundai supplied Engine model 8-710G3B-ES instead of model no 8-710G3B-TI as mentioned in the contract, saying that the engines they provided are "superior" to the one mentioned in the contract, documents show.

They also supplied different traction

A BR official said the agreement contains clear direction about what should be done in case of contract deviation and the authorities should go for it, instead of forming any committees.

The Daily Star could not reach Roni Mostafa, proprietor of Golam Mostafa and Sons, the local agency of Hyundai for the project, over phone for comments on the issue. He also did not respond to text

This newspaper also could not reach the ministry's secretary over the phone.

New policy for faster rice import

and excessive rain, he said, adding, "We

are self-sufficient in food production. But when there are natural disasters, imports are required. The minister, however, said the food ministry was instructed to import rice on

a limited scale. Otherwise, it would impact the market, he added. Meanwhile, the government has taken

an initiative to import 5.5 lakh tonnes of rice through international open tender. The fresh move came weeks after

the government initiated the process to import 6 lakh tonnes of rice. Of the total, 3 lakh tonnes will be imported through international tender and 3 lakh tonnes on government to government (G-to-G) basis.
Agreements have already been signed to

import the 3 lakh tonnes through tender. Out of the 3 lakh tonnes to be imported on G2G basis, the government has already

inked an agreement with India to import 1 lakh tonnes of boiled rice. Signing an agreement with Myanmar is under process to import 1 lakh tonnes of

Proposal of importing the rest 1 lakh tonnes of boiled rice from India under G2G has been sent to the Cabinet Committee on

Government Purchase. imported 98.80 government

thousand tonnes of rice till March 2. According to the food ministry, the country's food stock was at only 6.44 lakh tonnes till February 28 -- 5.34 lakh tonnes

of rice and the rest wheat.

In July last year, the government had a

stock of 11.88 lakh tonnes of rice. During the same period in 2019, the

food department had a stock of 16.74 lakh tonnes of grains, according to data from the food ministry's food planning and monitoring unit.

The stock started falling in June last year as distribution under the social safety net and other government programmes continued despite sluggish procurement of food grains.

Farmers and millers refrained from selling food grains to the food office at the government-fixed rates at prices were soaring. An increase in distribution of cereal

among those affected by the Covid-19 pandemic and recurring floods also contributed to the drop in the stock, said food ministry officials.

Procurement Situation The Directorate General of Food sought to procure 19.5 lakh tonnes of Boro paddy and rice from April 26 to September 15 last year. But it could buy only 9.09 lakh tonnes during the period.

It is also going to miss its Aman procurement target this season.

The directorate's target was to buy 8 lakh tonnes of grain during Aman season between November 20 last year and February 28 this year. It, however, managed to buy only 73,000 tonnes till February 25.

The government failed to achieve the procurement target mainly because it fixed paddy and rice prices lower than The ministry considers the stock of production costs at the farm level.

168m kids missed school

জিডি-৪৩

to their education due to full and partial school closures.

The virus has killed at least 2,551,075

people since it emerged in China in December 2019, according to an AFP tally compiled from official sources yesterday.

তোফায়েল আহাম্মদ

বিপি-৭১০১০০৭৯০৩ অধিনায়ক (পুলিশ সুপার) ১২ আর্মভ পুলিশ ব্যাটালিয়ন

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Email: co12ap@police.gov.bd



গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

By-election

FROM PAGE 12 Machines will be used in Laxmipur 2 by polls, 30 of the UPs and all of the municipalities.

February On secretariat parliament issued a gazette notification announcing that Laxmipur 2 constituency fell vacant because of Kazi Papul's moral turpitude.

The gazette has been in effect since January 28 when Papul was sentenced to four years of rigorous imprisonment by a Kuwait court.

criminal The court delivered the verdict almost eight months after Kuwait's Criminal Investigation Department arrested Papul, the managing director and CEO of Marafie Kuwaitia

Group.

He was accused of human trafficking, labour exploitation and violation of the residency law, money laundering, and bribing Kuwaiti officials with millions of dollars to win contracts and to recruit Bangladeshi workers.

political Registered will directly parties participate in the UP election for the post of Non-aligned chairmen. candidates will only run for members and women's reserved seats.

There are 4,500 union parishads in the country.

The first five phases of the municipality polls were held on December 28, January 16, January 30, February 14 and February

ruling Awami League won 80 percent of the mayoral posts in 230 municipalities.

Moinuddin FROM PAGE 12

March 16.

Moinuddin, a former senior secretary to the agriculture ministry, will enjoy the status of a judge of the Supreme Court Appellate Division. Jahurul on the other hand will have the status of a judge of the High Court Division.

Moinuddin began his career in public service as a magistrate in 1983. In August 2018, he retired as a senior secretary in the agriculture ministry.

Earlier, he was secretary of the Ministry of Housing and Public Works, and secretary/secretary incharge of the industries

From May 2009 to May 2010, Moinuddin looked after the affairs of the Prime Minister's Office in the capacity of director general.

He earlier served as the assistant private secretary at the chief adviser's office.

Jahurul, former a sessions judge of Dhaka Sessions Metropolitan Judge's Court, was the chairman of BTRC between January 2019 and December

He served as legal commissioner of BTRC for about three and a half years.

Vaccination

FROM PAGE 12

holiest sites in Makkah and Medina and its peaceful organisation of the haji, which has been marred in the past by deadly stampedes, fires and riots.

In 2020, the kingdom dramatically reduced the number of pilgrims to around 1,000 to help prevent the spread of the coronavirus, after barring Muslims abroad from the rite for the first time in modern times.

Glow-in-dark

FROM PAGE 12

The 180cm kitefin has been spotted swimming at depths between 50m and 1.8km but usually inhabits a zone below 300m, experts said. It is the largest known bioluminescent vertebrate.

However, Dalatias licha does not have any predators so the usefulness of its camouflaged glowing belly - with which, it is thought, it can "counter-illuminate" itself against weak sunlight filtering from above - was not clear.

In constructing their hypotheses. researchers cited previous studies which said that although D. licha has one of the slowest "cruising speeds" known among sharks, it is believed to have a very high shortrange burst speed. Evidence has shown it can eat fastswimming fish as well as slower creatures that dwell near the sea bed.

26,695 rape cases filed in last

Mozibur Rahman Miah and Justice Md Kamrul Hossain Mollah fixed May 23 for further hearing on the issue.

Also yesterday, Md Ali Akbar, supreme court registrar general, placed another report to the HC bench through Nawroz saying that a three-member monitoring cell, headed by Ali, has been formed to monitor whether the trials of the cases filed under the Women and Children Repression Prevention Act 2000, are completed in 180 days.

The monitoring cell has been constituted in line with a verdict delivered by the HC on December 5, 2016. The HC directive came in the full text of the verdict, delivered by the HC bench of Justice M Enayetur Rahim and Justice JBM Hassan released on May 12, 2017.

According to section 20 of the Act, the Women and Children Repression

Prevention Tribunal must finish the Aneek R Haque and Yeadia Zaman trial of the cases filed under this law

within 180 days of framing charges. Section 31 (ka) of the law states if the trial of a case is not finished on time, the tribunal judge, public prosecutor and police officer concerned have to submit separate reports to the SC and the government, mentioning causes for the delay, and then the authorities concerned should take necessary

During yesterday's hearing, the HC bench, led by Justice Mozibur Rahman Miah, questioned some orders delivered by another HC bench issuing a condition that the accused in a rape case will be granted bail if they marry their victims in jail, if there was a previous relationship between them.

Mozibur Rahman's bench, in this regard, said rape is not a compoundable offence.

The writ petitioner's lawyers

told the HC that the rape is a noncompoundable criminal offence and it cannot be settled through arbitration or out of court.

A DAG, on condition of anonymity, told The Daily Star that another HC bench has granted ad-interim bail to seven to eight accused, including a convict of separate rape cases, after they agreed to marry their victims in jail gates.

Following a petition filed by Ain O Salish Kendra (ASK), a leading rights organisation, the HC bench, led by Justice Mozibur Rahman Miah, on October 21 last year directed law enforcers to take necessary steps to stop the use of arbitration in adjudicating rape incidents in the country.

It also sought separate compliance reports from the IGP and SC registrar general on this issue.

Can Pakistan be saved?

operating as per normal but according to the directives issued by the Awami League. [Kamal Hossain, Bangladesh Quest for Freedom and Justice, UPL 2013, pg. 86]

Three days into the non-cooperation movement, a countrywide hartal was observed. Six people were killed in Khulna in the face of army attack. In Chattogram the death toll rose to 121 in two days.

'CAN PAKISTAN BE SAVED?'

On the night of March 4, 1971, Major General Rao Farman Ali, then military adviser to the governor of East Pakistan, visited Bangabandhu at his Dhanmondi residence and asked, "Can Pakistan be saved?" Sheikh Mujib replied in the affirmative and said, "It can be saved if somebody listens to us. So many people are being killed by the army. They listen

to [Zulfikar Ali] Bhutto. They don't listen to me." [Rao Farman Ali, How Pakistan Got Divided, OUP 2017]

Bangabandhu added that first of all there should be no opposition to the Six Points. Referring to their private talks in January 1971, Bangabandhu said Bhutto had not opposed any of the provisions of the Six Points but had been interested only in cabinet positions for his party members and in the presidency for himself. He also demanded abrogation of martial law and transfer of power.

Tajuddin Ahmad conversation at this juncture and emphasised two separate constituent assemblies, one for the east and one for the west, preparing constitutional drafts and then meeting as one to complete the final document as the only solution to the crisis. He also indicated that AL representatives

could not sit in the same room with Bhutto after his unilateral veto to the convening of the National Assembly. [Richard Sisson and Leo E Rose, War and Secession: Pakistan, India, and the Creation of Bangladesh, UCP, 1990, pg. 98]

RADIO PAKISTAN CHANGED TO DHAKA BETAR KENDRO

The state-run Radio Pakistan in Dhaka started broadcasting as Dhaka Betar Kendra. The station not only broadcasted all directives issued by the Awami League, but also played the patriotic tunes of Rabindranath Tagore and rebel poet Kazi Nazrul Islam. A group of radio artists announced that as long as conspiracy against democracy continues, they will not perform for Radio Pakistan.

. Shamsuddoza Sajen is a journalist and researcher. He can be contacted at sajen1986@gmail.com

Family applies

the remark while talking with reporters at the secretariat after Khaleda Zia's family had applied for relaxation of bail as well as commutation of her sentences.

Khaleda Zia's younger brother Shamim Iskandar have submitted the application to the ministry on Tuesday, according to the home ministry.

In the application, they mentioned that they were not able to provide treatment of Khaleda during the Covid-19 period and asked for relaxing the bail conditions and waiving sentence, said Kamal.

"We have sent the application to the law ministry for further scrutiny. Once. the law ministry gives their response, we would decide after discussing it properly," he said.

as jail," he said.

Khaleda Zia's brother Shamim Iskandar has applied for her earlier.

"Our prime minister is the mother of humanity. She always cooperates whenever she saw this type of condition," said the home boss.

In the perspective, the prime minister arranged Khaleda Zia's stay in her residence with conditions to ensure proper treatment, said the minister. Asked about the family's request

for sending Khaleda abroad, the home boss said that the request of going abroad has always remained in the reference of the letter. 'But, she [Khaleda Zia] is still in jail.

She has been staying in her residence

Khaleda received treatment from Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University Hospital specialists when she was in jail, said the minister. As she is suffering from arthritis

and facing problems for movement,

she needs continuous support from someone, he said, adding she was suffering from the problem earlier not for going to jail. Thinking about such issues, the prime minister has arranged an

opportunity for her so that she can get better assistance, said Kamal.

While she was in jail, her nominated BSMMU doctors went there and now her nominated doctors are providing treatment at her residence, added the



মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ

৩। দরপত্র সম্পাদনকারী প্রধান

২। সংস্থা

১০৮৯

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়



পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট আইন, ২০০৬ ও পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট আইন, ২০০৮ এবং তৎপরবর্তীতে সংশোধিত ও প্রণীত আইন/বিধিমালা যোতাবেক পর্ত মেরামত কাজের যোগ্যতা সম্পন্ন ঠিকাদার/প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হতে ২০২০-২০২১ অর্থবছরে রাজশাহী জেলার নিমুবর্ণিত অন্যান্য ভবন ও ছাপনা মেরামত প্রকল্প বান্তবায়নের জন্য নির্ধারিত ফরমে সিলমোহরকৃত খামে প্রতিযোগিতামূলক ও উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র আহবান করা যাচেছ।

ঃ বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ।

পুলিশ বিভাগ।

ঃ পুলিশ সুপার, রাজশাহী।

8

ঃ দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি ঃ

8	ক্রয়/সংগ্রহের সত্ত্বাধিকারীর জেলা		8	রাজশাহী।			
¢	দরপত্রের বিষয়		8	ভবন ও স্থাপনা মেরামত প্রকল্প বাস্তবায়ন।			
ঙ৷	দরপত্রের সূত্র নম্বর ও তারিখঃ		8	পুলিশ হেডকোয়ার্টার্সের স্মারক নং-৪৪.০১.০০০০.০৪৩.১০৫-২০২০/মেরামত/রাজশাহী/১০৬৪(৪) তারিখ্য ২৩-০২-২০২১খ্রি.			
٩١	দরপত্রের পদ্ধতি		8	উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র আহবান পদ্ধতি।			
61	বাজেট ও অর্থনৈতিক খাত		8	পুলিশ বাজেটের কোড নং-"৩-১২২০-২০১১০৫৯৫৪ সদর দপ্তর-৩২৫৮১০৮" "অন্যান্য ভবন ও ছাপনা" খাত			
िह	দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি পত্রিকায় প্রকাশের শেষ তারিখ		8	০৪-০৩-২০২১ খ্রিঃ।			
701	দরপত্র সিডিউল প্রাপ্তির সর্বশেষ তারিখ		8	৩১-০৩-২০২১ খ্রিঃ (১৫.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত)			
77 ।	দরপত্র সিডিউল বাব্ধে ফেলার/ জমা প্রদানের সর্বশেষ তারিখ ও সময়		8	০১-০৪-২০২১ খ্রিঃ (১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত)			
25 1	দরপত্র বাক্স খোলার তারিখ ও সময়		8	০১-০৪-২০২১খ্রিঃ বেলা ১২.৩০ মিনিটে দরপত্র দাতা বা মনোনীত প্রতিনিধিদের উপন্থিতিতে (যদি থাকেন)।			
२० ।	দরপত্র সম্পাদনকারী অফিস ও ঠিকানা		8	পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়, রাজশাহী।			
184	দরপত্র সিডিউল প্রাপ্তির স্থান		8	পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়, রাজশাহী ও নওগাঁ।			
1 92	দরপত্র দাখিলের স্থান		8	পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়, রাজশাহী।			
১৬।	দরপত্র খোলার স্থান		8	পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়, রাজশাহী।			
1 P &	দরপত্র	দরপত্র মূল্যায়নের তারিখ ও সময়		০৪-০৪-২০২১ খ্রিঃ, সময় ১১.০০ ঘটিকায়।			
72.1	৮। দরপত্রের সাথে যে সকল কাগজপত্র জমা প্রদান		8	সংশ্লিষ্ট কাজ বান্তবায়ন সংক্রান্তে হালনাগাদ ঠিকাদারী লাইসেল, ট্রেড লাইসেল, আয়কর			
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ا هرد	ক্রঃ নং	কাঞ্চের বিরবণ			াসাডডলের মূল্য	দরপত্র জামানত (ফেরত যোগ্য)	কাজ সমাপ্তর সময়
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	(७)	রংকরণ কাজ।			¢00/-	9,600/-	৪৫ দিন
	(8)	্রামতসহ স্যাবক কাজ।			¢00/-	-/٥٥٥, ۶۵	৬০ দিন
	(4)	রাজশাহী জেলার গোদাগাড়ী মডেল থানাধীন প্রেমতলী পুলিশ তদন্তকেন্দ্র এর বিশেষ মেরামত ও সংক্ষার কাজ (সংশোধিত)।			¢00/-	৬,০০০/-	৪৫ দিন
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	(৯) রাজশাহী জেলা পুলিশ লাইন্সের অভ্যন্তরে রেশন স্টোর হতে মোটরযান শাখা পর্যন্ত এবং মোটরযান শাখা হতে অন্ত্রাগার পর্যন্ত রাল্ভা আরসিসিকরণ কাজ।			900/-	₹₡,०००/-	৬০ দিন	
	(50)					b,@00/-	৪৫ দিন
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বিশেষ জ্ঞাতব্যঃ

(8)

(b)

GD- 430

ব্যক্তি বা প্রতিষ্ঠানের স্বত্তাধিকারীর স্বাক্ষরযুক্ত প্যাডে আবেদনপূর্বক পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়, রাজশাহী ও নওগাঁ হতে অফিস চলাকালীন সময় পর্যন্ত (季)

দরপত্র সংগ্রহ করা যাবে। দরপত্রের সাথে যে সকল কাগজপত্র প্রদান করতে হবে তার মূলকপি দরপত্র ক্রয়ের সময় প্রদর্শন করতে হবে।

দরপত্র সংক্রান্তে অন্যান্য তথ্যাবলি দরপত্র সংগ্রহকালে নিমুশ্বাক্ষরকারীর কার্যালয় হতে জানা যাবে এবং দরপত্র সিডিউলে উল্লেখ থাকবে। (গ) (ঘ) পুলিশ হেডকোয়ার্টার্স কর্তৃক অনুমোদিত ও অর্থ বরান্দের আলোকে কার্যাদেশ প্রদান করা হবে অন্যথায় এই দরপত্রের সকল কার্যক্রম বাতিল বলে গন্য হবে। এ বিষয়ে কোন আপত্তি গ্রহণযোগ্য হবে না।

দরপত্রে উল্লিখিত সময়ের মধ্যে কার্য সম্পাদন করতে হবে সিডিউল বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ ও দাখিলের তারিখ অনিবার্য কারণে অফিস বন্ধ থাকলে তৎপরবর্তী দিনে একই সুমর্য সিডিউল বিক্রয় ও গ্রহণ করা হবে। এ বিষয়ে কোন বিজ্ঞপ্তি বা নোটিশ দেয়া হবে না। দরপত্র আহবানকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ যে কোন সময় কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতীত সকল দরপত্র/আংশিক দর্মতা র্মহণ ও বাতিলের ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

> এ বি এম মাসুদ হৈছিন্দ, দৈপিএম(বার) বিপি-৭৫০৫১০৫০৭৯ পুলিশ সপার রাজশাহী।

ফোন-৭৭২২৫০. ফ্যাক্স-৭৭২৯৯৭