



Separated from mothers, baby elephants are tied to logs and pulled around the field like this. As they writhe in agony, their trainers completely ignore their cry for help, saying, "This is how it's always been."

PHOTO: COLLECTED

# Torture, abuse, separation

The story of how elephants are domesticated

MINTU DESHWARA

People of greater Sylhet and Chittagong Hill Tracts regions are familiar with domesticated elephants being used to pull trees down the hills, in circuses and at various social events.

But behind these seemingly innocuous actions lies a history of torture and abuse, as the elephants are cruelly trained into submission from a very young age.

Experts condemn this method of training and are calling for its end, but the forest department does not seem to have any plan regarding the issue.

According to the Department of Wildlife Management and Nature Conservation, there are 45 domesticated elephants in Sylhet division, who are trained across four to five spots. Locally, this training is known as "Hadani".

Locals said it begins by tying up baby elephants, away from their mothers. They are then subjected to various brutal methods of training, as well as physical abuse.

This correspondent spoke to Joynal



**They also have emotions. They writhe in frustration when we tie them up. We also need to beat them up often, which is why we keep the mothers away. If they're around, they might get enraged and start attacking people.**

AKBAR ALI  
Trainer

Mia, an elephant trainer based in Kuchaitol area in Moulvibazar's Juri upazila.

"We have a seven-member training team, led by myself and head coach Akbar Ali. After separating the babies from the mother elephants, we tie them up with a rope from all sides," he elaborated the process.

"We then tie them to wooden logs buried in the ground. We keep them like this for two hours, feeding them sweets mixed with straw. We then pull the logs up and drag the elephants around the field," he said, rather nonchalantly.

"This method has been used since the time of our forefathers. Without this, the wild elephants cannot be tamed," he added.

Trainer Akbar Ali used to be a "mahout". He joined as a trainer around 20-25 years ago. "We have trained them since childhood, otherwise taming them becomes impossible later on," he told this correspondent.

"They also have emotions. They writhe in frustration when we tie them up. We also need to beat them up often, which is why we keep the mothers away. If they're around, they might get enraged and start attacking people," he said quite nonchalantly.

This training lasts for two months, after which circus acts and tree pulling is taught, Akbar said.

Asked about the brutality of the method, Akbar said they have an

ointment made from tree leaves, which is applied to the elephants when they're wounded.

Locals told this correspondent that forest department officials sometimes come to inspect the training grounds. During these visits, the cruelty is kept to a minimum. But it restarts once the inspection is over.

Contacted, Rezaul Karim Chowdhury, divisional forest officer, said the others have licenses, which allows them to train the elephants. But he said this should not abet their torture during training. "They should be more aware of this," he said, adding that there are gentler methods of training even in neighbouring Sri Lanka and Thailand.

He also assured of taking steps in this regard.

Wildlife expert Prof Monirul H Khan of Jahangirnagar University's zoology department said this is how elephants have been trained for ages, but it's out of date now. "There are policies on elephant training in other countries, but nothing like that exists here. It's quite ridiculous, to be honest," he said.

## Reg of 228 NGOs scrapped in last 4yrs

Liberation War affairs minister tells JS

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Registration of 228 NGOs has been scrapped between 2017 and 2021 due to various reasons, including violation of conditions, Liberation War Affairs Minister AKM Mozammel Haque informed parliament yesterday.

Replying to a query from Jatiya Party MP Moshir Rahman Ranga, Mozammel, also in charge of the Prime Minister's Office in parliamentary affairs, said at present, there are 260 foreign NGOs and 2,266 local NGOs registered under the Bureau of NGO Affairs.

In a scripted reply, the minister said, according to section 14 of the Foreign Grants (Voluntary Activities) Regulation Act, 2016, if any person working in an NGO violates the provisions of these laws and makes hateful and indecent remarks about the constitution and constitutional institutions, acts against the state, funding, sponsoring or supporting militancy or terrorism or involvement in trafficking of women and children and arms and drug dealing, legal action can be taken against the organisations.

He said the project name, duration, date of approval, project and area related information, allocation, actual expenditure and number of beneficiaries are verified by the NGO bureau.

The minister said, "According to the Foreign Grants Regulation Act, 2016, the Bureau of NGO Affairs also monitors voluntary activities conducted by individuals and NGOs and can form a monitoring committee. If necessary, the bureau can also appoint an external observer."

## Trucker held over death of van-puller

UNB, Dhaka

Rab on Wednesday detained the driver of a truck from Chandgaon area of port city, after a van-puller was killed by his truck in the capital's Bailey Road area on January 24.

The detainee is Jashim Uddin (32).

Tipped off, a team of Rab-3 along with Rab-7 members conducted a drive and detained Jashim around 9:30 pm from his friend's house.

Jashim was taking shelter at the house after the incident, said a press release of Rab headquarters yesterday.

Jashim used to drive sand-laden trucks from Gabtoli truck stand.

During primary interrogation, Jashim confessed to his guilt, said Rab.

33-year-old van puller Nur Alam was killed while another person named Tuhin was injured.

Both were residents of Tejaagan.

The truck had hit two egg-laden vans in the city's Ramna area on January 24.

## PUST dept chair 'assaulted', barred from hiring board

Claims VC behind this; VC says teacher's wife was candidate

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

A department chairman of Pabna University of Science and Technology (PUST) was allegedly assaulted, as he was trying to enter a teacher recruitment board of his own department yesterday morning.

A member of the board himself, assaulted Prof Harunur Rashid is also chairperson of the university's mathematics department.

During a press conference held at Pabna Press Club yesterday afternoon, Prof Harun raised fingers against the university's vice chancellor Prof M Rostom Ali in this regard.

However, the VC said Harun was asked not to attend the board, as his wife is one of the candidates for the teacher's post.

"The registrar's office issued a notice for me on January 16 to join the board, formed to recruit two teachers for my department," Harun said.

"As I was trying to enter, officials stopped me as per the VC's instructions," he alleged. "At one stage, some junior level officials proceeded to assault me."

"I was assaulted and forced out of the board, so that the VC can select candidates of his choice," he said.

"External teachers from the VC's own campus [Rajshahi University] conducted the recruitment test. No teacher from PUST's mathematics department was there for the written exam or viva-voce," he added.

Harun also claimed that candidates most fit for the job were rejected, so that the VC can recruit his preferred candidates.

He then demanded suspension of the recruitment board and rescheduling the exam.

Talking to The Daily Star, VC Rostom Ali denied all allegations, saying there was no irregularity in the recruitment process.

However, he also said, "Dr Harun's wife is one of the candidates, so he was repeatedly requested to



**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources  
Geological Survey of Bangladesh (GSB)  
153, Pioneer Road, Segunbagicha  
Dhaka-1000

Tender Notice No. 28.05.0000.231.07.101.21.178 Date: 27.01.2022

**e-Tender Notice Procurement Method: OTM (NCT)**  
e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the Procurement of the following goods:

SL No.	Tender ID	Name of Goods
01.	653317	Supply of 52 seat staff bus for GSB and related services

For any information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)) no offline/hard copies will be accepted.  
Tender ID: 639146; Tender last selling date: 09.02.2022, Time: 16.30 & tender closing/opening date: 10.02.2022, Time: 11.30.

**Md. Rakibul Islam Khan**  
Procurement Officer  
GSB, Dhaka  
For Director General  
Phone: 48314810

GD-172

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Office of the Executive Engineer  
Education Engineering Department  
Dinajpur  
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**Corrigendum Notice**  
Memo No. 37.07.2700.003.00.000.2021-22/253 Date: 26/01/2022

This is for information to all concern that due to some unavoidable circumstances the following amendments have been made in the Tender Documents of Tender Notice No. 22/Development of Selected Non-Govt. Secondary Schools(Furniture)/2021-2022 Dated: 20-01-2022 invited vide Memo No. 283 Dated: 20-01-2022 of Executive Engineer, Education Engineering Department, Dinajpur.

Name of Project: **Development of Selected Non-Govt. Secondary Schools.**  
Name of work: Manufacturing & Supplying of Furniture for Academic Building of Selected Non-Govt. Secondary Schools.

Sl. No.	Item	Original	Amendment
1.	Last Selling Date & Time	07-Feb./2022 Time: 17.00	09-Feb./2022 Time: 17.00
2.	Last Submission Date & Time	08-Feb./2022 Time: 12.30	10-Feb./2022 Time: 12.30

This Corrigendum Notice will be the part of the Tender Documents. All other terms and conditions of the Tender Notice will remain unchanged.

**S.M. Shahinur Islam**  
Executive Engineer  
Education Engineering Department  
Dinajpur

GD-169

**ঢাকা দক্ষিণ সিটি কর্পোরেশন**  
নগর ভবন, ঢাকা  
[www.dscoc.gov.bd](http://www.dscoc.gov.bd)

স্মারক নম্বরঃ ৪৬.২০৭.০০০.০৩.০০.২৯১৫.২০২১-৭৬

**ব্যবহারিক পরীক্ষার বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

ঢাকা দক্ষিণ সিটি কর্পোরেশনের বাজিগত সহকারী এবং রেজিস্ট্রেশন সহকারী (জন্ম মৃত্যু নিবন্ধীকরণ) পদে ১৫ জানুয়ারি ২০২২ তারিখে অনুষ্ঠিত পরীক্ষার নিম্নোক্ত রোল নম্বরধারী প্রার্থীগণ লিখিত পরীক্ষায় উত্তীর্ণ হয়ে ব্যবহারিক পরীক্ষার জন্য নির্বাচিত হয়েছেন। নিম্নোক্ত সময়সূচি অনুযায়ী ব্যবহারিক পরীক্ষা গ্রহণ করা হবে।

ক্র.	পদ নাম	ব্যবহারিক পরীক্ষার জন্য নির্বাচিত প্রার্থীদের রোল নম্বরসমূহ	ব্যবহারিক পরীক্ষার তারিখ, সময় ও বার	স্থান			
১.	বাজিগত সহকারী	১৮০০০৭৪	১৮০০০৭৫	১৮০০০৭৮	১৮০০০৭৯	১০/০২/২০২২ বৃহস্পতিবার সকাল ১০.০০ টায়	তথ্য ও যোগাযোগ প্রযুক্তি প্রশিক্ষণ কেন্দ্র, নগর ভবন (১১ তলা), ঢাকা দক্ষিণ সিটি কর্পোরেশন।
		১৮০০১১৩	১৮০০১৪৬	১৮০০১৯৯	১৮০০২৭৬		
		১৮০০২৮৭	১৮০০৪০০	১৮০০৪৩৬	১৮০০৫৫৭		
		১৮০০৫৭১	১৮০০৫৮৯	১৮০০৬৪১	১৮০০৭২৭		
		১৮০০৭৫৮	১৮০০৭৯২	১৮০০৮১০	১৮০০৮৭০		
		১৮০০৮৯৫	১৮০০৯৪৯	১৮০১১৩৫	১৮০১১৮০		
		১৮০১১৯৫	১৮০১২১০	১৮০১২২৩	১৮০১২৩৫		
		১৮০১২৪৯	১৮০১২৫৮	১৮০১৩২৯	১৮০১৩৪৫		
		১৮০১৪৩৮	১৮০১৪৫২	১৮০১৪৬৫	১৮০১৪৮২		
		১৮০১৫২১	১৮০১৫৫৭	১৮০১৫৬৫	১৮০১৭৫৪		
		১৮০১৮০২	১৮০১৮০৭	১৮০১৮৫২	১৮০১৮৮৪		
		১৮০১৮৮৮	১৮০১৯৫৮	১৮০১৯৭৪	১৮০২২৯১		
		১৮০২২৯৭	১৮০২৩৫৩	১৮০২৪৩১	১৮০২৪৫২		
		১৮০২৫০২	= ৫৩ জন				
২.	রেজিস্ট্রেশন সহকারী (জন্ম মৃত্যু নিবন্ধীকরণ)	১৪০০০০৯	১৪০০০১১	১৪০০০৫৩	১৪০০০৭২	১০/০২/২০২২ বৃহস্পতিবার বিকাল ০৩.০০ টায়	তথ্য ও যোগাযোগ প্রযুক্তি প্রশিক্ষণ কেন্দ্র, নগর ভবন (১১ তলা), ঢাকা দক্ষিণ সিটি কর্পোরেশন।
		১৪০০০৭৬	১৪০০০৯৬	১৪০০০৯৯	১৪০০১১৭		
		১৪০০১৮৯	১৪০০৩১৬	১৪০০৩৮০	১৪০০৭২০		
		১৪০০৮৫২	১৪০০৮৬১	১৪০০৮৮৭	১৪০০৯২৭		
		১৪০০৯৪২	১৪০০৯৫৫	১৪০০৯৯৬	১৪০১০৭৮		
		১৪০১১১৫	১৪০১১৪৭	১৪০১১৫৪	১৪০১১৮১		
		১৪০১২০৩	১৪০১২১৮	= ২৬ জন			

২। নিম্নবর্ণিত শর্তাবলী ব্যবহারিক পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণের ক্ষেত্রে আবশ্যিকভাবে অনুসরণ করতে হবেঃ  
(১) ব্যবহারিক পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণের সময় লিখিত পরীক্ষার প্রবেশপত্র সঙ্গে আনতে হবে;  
(২) পরীক্ষার নির্ধারিত সময়ের ৩০ মিনিট পূর্বে যথাস্থানে উপস্থিত থাকতে হবে;  
(৩) পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণের জন্য কোন প্রকার টিএ/ডিএ প্রদান করা হবে না।

আকরামুল্লাহামান  
সচিব  
ডিএসসি/পিআরডি/১৭১/২০২১-২২  
ডিভি-১৭১  
ঢাকা দক্ষিণ সিটি কর্পোরেশন