

RCC mayor's documents faked for \$78,893 fraud

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Unknown fraudsters used fake documents of Rajshahi City Corporation (RCC) and its mayor AHM Khairuzzaman Liton to sign a \$10.12 million firefighting truck procurement deal with a Korean company.

Shinshin Global Company Limited, believing that it was communicating with RCC officials, sent \$78,893 to bank accounts in Philippines and the UK to close the deal.

According to the fake deal, RCC would procure the trucks from the company for \$10.12 million.

The information was revealed by the mayor, also a presidium member of Awami League, yesterday during a press conference at Rajshahi Nagar Bhaban.

"We're completely unaware of the deal. Even we have no authority to sign such a deal with a foreign company," Liton said.

He said the corporation has lodged a general diary with Boalia Police Station and informed the cybercrime unit of police, along with the government high-ups.

The story started developing from December last year, when a top official of the Korean company called RCC engineering adviser Md Ashraful Haque to enquire about the procurement of eight firefighting trucks.

After consulting with the mayor, Haque informed the

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GRAFT CASE

Bagerhat mayor sent to jail

Supporters block highway

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bagerhat

A Bagerhat court yesterday ordered to send Bagerhat Municipality Mayor Khan Habibur Rahman and former municipality secretary Rezaul Karim to jail in a corruption case.

The order was issued by District and Sessions Judge Rabiu Islam. After a lengthy hearing, the judge denied the accused's bail request.

Meanwhile, as Habibur Rahman's bail was denied, his supporters blocked the Khulna-Bagerhat highway for over an hour.

On November 25, last year, the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) filed a case against Mayor Khan Habibur Rahman and former secretary Rezaul Karim

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The East Pakistan Ain Parishad raged with heated debates protesting the February 21 attack. The Parishad's building used to stand on the spot where Jagannath Hall's October Smriti Bhaban stands today.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

The Language Movement did not just come to be. Behind the historic movement, that brought about a turn of events for Bangladesh, are a million stories – of people, of premises, of places. In this 10-part series, we explore some of the places and premises vital to the movement. Establishments that we've lost to time, buildings that today bear no sign of the glories they once played host to. For part five, we take you to the East Pakistan Ain Parishad, on whose place the Jagannath Hall stands today.

Ain Parishad was there for the movement

DIPAN NANDY and SIRAJUL ISLAM RUBEL

On February 21, 1952, the protesters had two programmes to press home their demand for Bangla as a state language. One, the section 144 had to go, and two, taking a memorial plaque to the East Pakistan Ain Parishad.

After the police opened fire during the rally that tried to overrule the curfew, the second programme never got the chance to take place. But even though the protesters never reached it, their fire still reached the Parishad. On the day, 35 MPs walked out of the Ain Parishad's budget session.

Today, the Ain Parishad premises doesn't exist anymore. In its place stands Dhaka University's Jagannath Hall. But sadly, there's no sign or memorial plaque



reminiscing how it once stood there with pride.

It can be known from Golam Quddus' "Bhashar Larai and Rashtra Bhasha Andolan" that on the day, the Parishad's session began with nine ministers and 83 members, along with the Speaker. Before it, Muslim League held a party meeting at the Parishad building.

As the sound of gunfire flew in, Abdur Rashid Tarkabagish immediately left the premises and headed out for DMCH. After observing the situation there, he came back to the premises and gave a speech

protesting the violence.

During his speech, he told the Speaker, "Before responding to questions let me just say we cannot hold this session here when our hopes for the future, our students are dying to police fire. This needs to be investigated first, before we resume the session."

The same was echoed by Congress' deputy leader Dharendra Nath Dutta, and he was joined by Abdur Rashid Tarkabagish, Manoranjan Dhar and more.

They soon got into a heated argument with Speaker Abdul Karim, after which the MPs of Muslim League and Congress walked out. At 5:10pm, the session was halted.

According to MR Mahbub's Ekushey'r

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7 killed, 22 hurt in road accidents

STAR REPORT

Seven people were killed and 22 were injured in road accidents in two districts during the last two days.

In Mymensingh, Murtaza Khatun (60) and her granddaughter Jannat (4) were killed when a covered van ran them over while they were crossing Dhaka-Mymensingh highway at Mehrabari yesterday, said police.

Meanwhile, seven army men were injured when their Dhaka-bound vehicle fell into a roadside ditch in the same area as the driver lost control over the steering yesterday, said Bhoraduba Highway Police Station OC Ali Hossain.

They were rushed to Combined Military Hospital in Mymensingh.

In Trishal, a seven-month-old girl, Sinnatur,

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Ctg doctor fighting for life at ICU

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A doctor is fighting for her life at the ICU of Chattogram Medical College Hospital. She was injured after being hit by an auto-rickshaw at Kazir Dewri on Tuesday.

The injured – Samina Akter – is a doctor at Bangabandhu Memorial Hospital of USTC, said police. She was returning home by a rickshaw around 10:30pm when the accident occurred.

Dr Noman Khaled Chowdhury, neurosurgeon head at CMCH, said her condition was critical.



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