One killed, four hurt in explosion at ice mill

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

An official was killed and four workers were injured in an explosion at an ice mill in Baufal upazila of Patuakhali on Tuesday night.

The deceased was identified as Rasel Khan, 37, an assistant director of the ice mill

The incident took place around 11:30pm at Khan Barfkal in Kalaiya Launchghat area, said Officer-in-Charge of Baufal Police Station ATM Arichul Haque.

The injured workers -- Premananda Das, 55, Krishna Rani, 40, Ibrahim, 29, Afzal, 50 - were first taken to Baufal Upazila Health Complex from where they were shifted to Barishal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital for better treatment.

The workers said they repaired an icemaking machine after a technical glitch was found. As soon as they turned on the machine after the repair, there was a loud explosion, they said.

As the gas spread to the entire machine room, all the staffers, except Rasel, managed to come out of the room, the workers said.

On information, firefighters rushed to the spot but their rescue operation was delayed due to the intensity of the gas.

About half an hour later, fire service personnel rescued all of them from the factory and sent them to the upazila health complex, where Rasel was declared dead.

Officials said they are investigating the incident.

Cases pile up in courts

42 lakh lawsuits await disposal

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

Although the rate of case disposal has increased in recent years, a huge backlog of around 42 lakh cases is pending with the courts across the country, including the Appellate and High Court Divisions of the Supreme Court, causing immeasurable suffering to the litigants.

The number of such backlogs is growing higher since the number of filing of cases is increasing day by day due to the huge population in the country, said SC sources.

An SC study report said a total of 41,96,603 cases were pending with all the courts in the country after 15,71,617 were filed and 14,71,402 were disposed of till December 31 last year.

Of those, 19,928 cases were pending with the Appellate Division, 5,16,674 with the High Court Division and 36,50,001 with the lower courts till that day.

The numbers of civil cases, criminal cases, contempt petitions, and cases under inquiry and investigations were 16,88,195; 23,88,610: 1,19,798 and 1,51,978 respectively at that time.

The Appellate Division; High Court Division and subordinate courts have disposed of a total of 5,406; 87,474 and 13,78,522 cases respectively from January 1 to December 31 last vear.

According to the SC report, a total of 7,89,179 cases (4,63,235 civil and 3,25,943 criminal cases) have been pending for more

than five years with the courts in the districts. The number of pending cases increased last year as those which were pending with the Anti-Terrorism Tribunal, Anti-Human Trafficking Offence Tribunal, and Cyber Tribunal in 2021 have been added to last year's, the SC study report said.

Legal experts have been saying the appointment of competent, experienced and honest judges at the courts and continuous monitoring of their activities can help reduce the backlog.

Sources said there are now eight judges for the Appellate Division, 90 judges for the High Court Division and around 1,800 judges for the lower courts across the country for dealing with and disposing of the cases.

Contacted, Appellate Division's Registrar Mohammad Saifur Rahman told The Daily Star that following a monitoring system initiated by Chief Justice Hasan Foez Siddique, the rate of case disposal has increased.

Around 100 percent disposal is taking place in 35 districts in proportionate to the filing of the cases, he said. If this trend continues, the backlog of cases will come to a tolerable level in the next few years.

Saifur Rahman also said the backlog of cases at the Appellate Division will come down as three benches of this division are now hearing and disposing of cases.

SHED

District

Mirza Abbas, wife get bail in graft case COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday granted bail to BNP standing committee member Mirza Abbas and his wife Afroza Abbas upon their surrender in a case filed in July, 2019 over amassing illegal wealth of Tk 20.76 crore.

Judge Md Monjurul Imam of Dhaka's Special Judge's Court-6 passed the order after the couple, accompanied by their lawyer Mohi Uddin Chowdhury, appeared before the court.

The judge fixed May 21 for next hearing.

On December 27 last year, ACC Deputy Director Nurul Huda, also the case's investigation officer. submitted the charge sheet. According to it, Abbas was an MP, minister and mayor of Dhaka City Corporation from 1991 to 1995. He was the housing and public works minister from 2001 to 2006. He obtained the wealth in Afroza's name till August 16, 2007 through bribery and corruption. On July 7, 2019, ACC

filed the case.

Furniture at Noapara High School

under Kendua Upazila Netrokona

By-polls to Ctg-8 today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The Election Commission is all set to hold the by-election Chattogram-8 (Boalkhali -Chandgaon-part Panchlaish) of constituency today. The deadline for



electoral campaign ended on Tuesday midnight.

Mohammad Hasanuzzaman, returning officer (RO) of the by-polls, told The Daily Star that allout preparations have been taken to hold the by election peacefully.

"Law enforcement agencies would be deployed while mobile teams of the detective branch would also be there," said the RO.

Three platoons of Border Guard Bangladesh and three platoons of Rab will be on duty, he said. "The executive as well as the judicial magistrates would be present," he added.

A total of five candidates -- Noman Al Mahmud from Awami League, Sehab Uddin Mohammad Abdus Samad from Bangladesh Islamic Front, Kamal Pasha from National People's Party, SM Farid Uddin from Islamic Front Bangladesh and independent candidate Ramzan Ali -- will contest the by-polls.

BNP is not participating in the by-polls and no BNP leader is vying as an independent candidate. A total of 517,652 voters are supposed to cast

their votes through electronic voting machines at all 190 polling centres, said Hasanuzzaman. The constituency remained vacant after the

death of AL lawmaker Moslem Uddin Ahmed on February 5.

15:00

13:00

13:00

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of the Project Manager-1 (EE), RHD Greater Dhaka Sustainable Urban Transport Project (BRT, Gazipur-Airport) House No-04, Road No-21, Sector-04, Uttara, Dhaka-1230 Phone: +88-02-48961062, Mobile: 01730-354221 E-mail: pm1rhd.gdsutp@gmail.com

Invitation for Tenders

3 1 4 1 5 1 6 1	Agency Procuring Entity Name Procuring Entity Code	Projec		E), RHD, Greate		nable Urban			
4 1 5 1 6 1						inable Urban			
5 1 6 1	Proguring Entity Code	Project Manager-1 (EE), RHD, Greater Dhaka Sustainable Urban Transport Project (BRT, Gazipur-Airport), House-04, Road-21,							
5 1 6 1		Sector No-04, Uttara, Dhaka							
6	Procuring Entity District	Not used at present. Dhaka.							
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11		Staffs) for Greater Dhaka Sustainable Urban Transport Project (BRT, Gazipur-Airport)							
7 1	Invitation Ref. No. & Date	Memo No-35.01.0000.562.07.004.23-180							
	-	Date: 26/04/2023							
100	Procurement Method		Tendering Met	hod (OTM).					
	Budget and Source of Funds	GOB Greater Dhaka Sustainable Urban Transport Project (BRT Gazipu							
10 1	Project Name	Airpo		nable Urban Trar	isport Project (BRT Gazipu			
11	Tender Package No.			M-02/2022-2023					
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			Gazipur-Airpo		oroun rimspo				
13	Tender Publication Date	27/04/2023							
14 '	Tender Last Selling Date & Time	14/05/2023, 4:00 PM							
15 1	Tender Closing Date and Time	15/05	/2023, 12:00 PM	N					
16 '	Tender Opening Date and Time	15/05/2023, 1:00 PM							
17 1	Tender Selling Price	Tk 2,000/-							
18 1	Name & Address of the office(s)								
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	-Selling Tender Document (Principal)	-	Project Manager-1, (EE), RHD, Greater Dhaka Sustainable Urban Transport Project (BRT, Gazipur-Airport), House No-04, Road No						
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3	- Selling Tender Document (Others)								
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	- Opening Tender Document	pject Manager-1(EE), RHD, Greater Dhaka Sustainable Urban							
		Transport Project (BRT, Gazipur-Airport), House No-04, Road No							
19	Eligibility of Tenderer:	21, Sector No-04, Uttara, Dhaka All Tenderers regardless of whether enlisted or not enlisted with the Employer may submit Tenders provided that they are otherwis qualified as per TDS.							
20	Brief description of work.	<u>.</u>							
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	Staff Outsourcing (05 Drivers & 05 Office Support Staffs)		Uttara	1,00,000/-	2,000/-	19 months			
21	Name of Official Inviting Tender		Md. Abdur Rahman						
22	Designation of Official Inviting Tend	der	Project Manager-1(EE), RHD, Greater Dhaka Sustainabl Urban Transport Project (BRT, Gazipur-Airport).						
23	Address of Official Inviting Tender		Project Manager-1(EE), RHD, Greater Dhaka Sustainabl Urban Transport Project (BRT, Gazipur-Airport), House No 04, Road No-21, Sector No-04, Uttara, Dhaka.						
24	Contact details of Official Inviting T	Email Address: pm1rhd.gdsutp@gmail.com							
25	Special Instructions:								
	 a) The tender Notice is brief and the details of the tender can be seen from the office of the undersign during office hours. 								
	b) The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.								
		T.		()	Abdur Rahma				

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1	PG-50/ SHED	Manufacturing and Supplying of Furniture at Jownopur High School Under Mohanganj Upazila Netrokona District	OTM	823131	10/05/2023 15:00	11/05/2023 13:00	11/05/2023 13:00
2	PG-51/ SHED	Manufacturing and Supplying of Furniture at Mowlana Muhamad Ali High School Under Kendua Upazila Netrokona District	OTM	823132	10/05/2023 15:00	11/05/2023 13:00	11/05/2023 13:00
3	PG-52/	Manufacturing and Supplying of	OTM	823133	10/05/2023	11/05/2023	11/05/2023

	PG-53/ SHED	Manufacturing and Supp Furniture at Atpara Colle Atpara Upazila Netrokona I	ge under	ОТМ	823134		/2023 :00	11/05/20 13:00		11/05/2023 13:00
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Project Manager-1 (EE, CC), RHD