

# RU recruitment suspension lifted after two years

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The education ministry yesterday lifted the suspension on all types of recruitment at Rajshahi University after over two and a half years.

Prof Pradip Kumar Panday, administrator of RU's public relations office, told The Daily Star that they received a notification issued by the Secondary and Higher Education Division (SHED) in this regard.

The notification said the embargo was withdrawn following RU authorities application to ensure academic and administrative activities at the university. It also said the university authorities can now conduct all recruitment activities in accordance with their policy.

On December 10, 2020, the education ministry suspended all kinds of appointments at the university as they found evidence of corruption and irregularities by the then RU VC Prof Abdus Sobhan and Pro-VC Prof Choudhury Zakaria, in the appointment of teachers at the university.

The commission submitted a probe report to the education ministry and the Prime Minister's Office, which recommended taking action against them and cancelling the appointment of 34 teachers, as the administration had made these appointments by relaxing university rules.

The report said the vice-chancellor, in collusion with others, also relaxed the rules to appoint his daughter and son-in-law at the public university.

Subsequently, on December 10 that year the education ministry had suspended all kinds of appointments at the university. The ministry also directed the university to prepare a new teacher recruitment policy.

# CONSTRUCTION OF 2 SCHOOL BUILDINGS Contractors paid Tk 1.36cr even before work starts

MASUK HRIDOY, Brahmanbaria

A project was passed for the financial year 2022-23 to build two new school buildings with the funding of the World Bank in Kasba upazila of Brahmanbaria at a cost of Tk 1.36 crore.

On March 7, Local Government Engineering Department flouted a tender for constructing multi-storied buildings of Kasba Girls Government Primary School and Taltala Government Primary School in the municipal area.

On March 30, the work order was issued against M/s Nadia Enterprise and M/s City Trade.

As per relevant rules, including Unnayan Prakaipasamuher Artha Abamukti o Bebohar Nirdeshika (roughly translated to fund disbursement and use for development projects), fund for such projects should be withdrawn in phases, only after the work begins.

But in a gross disregard to existing provisions, the contractor firms withdrew the entire Tk 1.36 crore from Sonali Bank (Kasba branch) on April 21 and 22 respectively, without even starting the construction works.



The appeals for withdrawal contained the signatures of LGED engineer Saiful Islam and UNO of Kashba upazila Mohammad Amimul Ehsan Khan, indicating their alleged involvement in the irregularities, confirmed bank sources.

Relevant stakeholders seeking anonymity alleged that Saiful has taken bribe from the contractors to give them such unlawful benefits.

Saiful denied the allegation but confirmed that Tk 1.36 crore was indeed withdrawn from the bank with his signature.

"See, the project was for FY 2022-23. But the project was in no position to be completed within this deadline. So the allocated money would have gone back to the donor organisation. This shouldn't have happened, especially at a time of economic crisis. So I did it for my country," he said.

Replying to a question, he said, "The contractors have kept the pay

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# 30 AL men sued for severing JL leader's hand

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Natore

Shariful Islam Ramzan, general secretary of Natore district Awami League, and 29 others have been sued for their alleged involvement in severing the hand of a Jubo League leader.

Swapna Badsha, brother of victim Mithun Ali, general secretary of Natore municipality ward-3 Jubo League, filed the case with Natore Sadar Police Station on Monday night, accusing 30 named and eight to 10 unidentified people, said Officer-in-Charge Nasim Ahmed.

Natore's AL joint general secretary Syed Mortuza Ali Bablu, its labour affairs secretary Nannu Sheikh, and Natore AL municipality unit president Syed Mostak Ali Mukul were among the accused.

Meanwhile, police in a drive arrested five suspects early yesterday. They are Ashraf Hossain Mondal, 50, Obaidul Sardar, 40, Rumon, 26, Mohsin Mondal, 31, and Nasir, 37, the OC added.

According to the case statement, followers of AL leader Ramzan attacked Mithun in presence of Ramzan and Bablu in the town's Balaripara around 9:30pm on Sunday and cut off his right hand from the wrist.

Swapna and four others were also injured in the attack.

Later, Mithun was sent to a hospital in Dhaka.

Contacted, AL leader Ramzan denied the allegations and said he along with the other leaders was at the party office during the incident.

OC Nasim said on February 16, a group of criminals attacked Nannu Sheikh, labour affairs secretary of district AL, at Bhabaniganj in the town. Mithun was accused in the case filed over the attack.

Government of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh

Roads and Highways Department

Office of the Project Director (ACE, RHD)

Chattogram-Cox's Bazar Highway Improvement Project

RHD Foreign Aided Office Building (1<sup>st</sup> Floor)

Road No. 27, Block-A Banani, Dhaka-1213

Notice for Invitation of Expression of Interest (EOI) for Consulting Services for Detail Design, Tender Assistance and Construction Supervision of Chattogram-Cox'sBazar Highway Improvement Project (CCHIP)

Memo No.35.01.2607.057.3(A).23-34

Date: 25.07.2023

1. The Government of Bangladesh has applied for a loan from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (hereinafter referred to as "JICA") for the "Chattogram-Cox'sBazar Highway Improvement Project" (hereinafter referred to as "the Project") with the objective of achieving smooth cargo transportation and improve access to Matarbari Port by constructing flyovers and outer roads at major congested sections between Chattogram and Cox's Bazar along the National Highway 1 (hereinafter referred to as "N1"), thereby contributing to the economic growth of the surrounding area and improvement of logistics in Bangladesh. A portion of the proceeds of the loan is intended to be used for eligible payments for consulting services for which this EOI is issued.

2. The project will consist of the following components:

a) Construction of outer roads at Dohazari, Lohagara and Chakaria

b) Construction of Flyover at Keranirhat

c) Improvement of alignment and widening of the existing Patiya Bypass

The project is expected to be completed by November 2028

Executing Agency: Roads and Highways Department (RHD)

Location of the Project: Chattogram District and Cox's Bazar District

RHD will select and employ the consultant for rendering consulting services of the project. Payments to the consultant will be made both in local and foreign currencies.

3. Roads and Highways Department (RHD) under the Road Transport and Highways Division (RTHD) of the Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges (MoRTB) will be the client of the consulting services. RHD now invites "Expression of Interest (EOI) in English from reputed international consulting firm(s), individual or in joint venture (hereinafter referred to as "the interested Consultant") for short listing the consulting services for Detailed Design, Tender Assistance, Construction Supervision, Facilitation of Implementation of Environmental Management Plan (EMP), Environmental Monitoring Plan (EMoP), Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) and Technology Transfer under the project. The international consulting firm(s) may submit the EOI in joint venture or in association with other international/national consulting firms.

4. As part of the services, the consultant will conduct the following works:

i. Review the JICA's Preparatory Survey including road alignment and propose modification, if necessary.

ii. Detailed Design

iii. Tender Assistance

iv. Construction Supervision

v. Facilitation of Implementation of Environmental Management Plan (EMP), Environmental Monitoring Plan (EMoP) and Resettlement Action Plan (RAP)

vi. Technology Transfer

The above works include the following tasks:

ii. Detailed Design

a) Review all available primary and secondary data collected during the JICA's preparatory survey for the Project;

b) Carry out all the required engineering surveys and investigations as applicable to the concerned project components.

c) Prepare detailed work plan, progress reports and implementation schedule for the Project

d) Prepare the detailed design of the Project including tender drawings, technical specifications, detailed cost estimates etc.

e) Define sources and estimated quantities of construction materials

f) Prepare the detailed design of resettlement sites together with land acquisition plan, infrastructure and utility installation plan etc.

iii. Tender Assistance

a) Prepare bidding documents in Consultation with RHD

b) Assist RHD in issuing bid invitation

c) Assist RHD to evaluate bids

d) Assist RHD during bid evaluation, contract negotiation and final contract agreement etc.

iv. Construction Supervision

a) Execute construction supervision and contract administration services

b) Regularly monitor progress and take actions required for timely completion of works

c) Verify contractors work statements and issue payment certificates

d) Review and necessarily modify design, drawing, specification, cost etc.

e) Dispute Board assistance

f) Prepare an operation and maintenance manual for the constructed works

g) Other necessary support to the client concerning the implementation of the project

h) Conduct training on Community Health and HIV/AIDS prevention etc.

v. Facilitation of implementation of Environmental Management Plan (EMP), Environmental Monitoring Plan (EMoP) and Resettlement Action Plan (RAP)

a) Update EMP and EMoP as appropriate

b) Assist RHD in obtaining clearance/permits/plans related to environment and forest from the competent authorities

c) Assist RHD to implement the measures identified in the EMP and EMoP

d) Update and/or prepare Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) as necessary etc.

vi. Technology Transfer

a) Provide the opportunity to the RHD officers and staffs to be involved in the working team of the Consultant during the design works for their capacity building wherever possible

b) Brief and demonstrate the survey and design procedure

c) Assist RHD and its staff to build their capacity as a part of on the job training under the Project etc.

The consultants will be selected under Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method in accordance with the procedures set out in the "Guidelines for the Employment of Consultants under Japanese ODA Loans, April 2012" ([https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our\\_work/types\\_of\\_assistance/oda\\_loans/oda\\_op\\_info/guide/handbooks/c8h0vm0000aoeux8-at/201204\\_chapter1\\_en.pdf](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our_work/types_of_assistance/oda_loans/oda_op_info/guide/handbooks/c8h0vm0000aoeux8-at/201204_chapter1_en.pdf))

RHD will conduct the Short-Listing of interested consulting firms for the above mentioned consulting services.

5. The Consulting Firm(s) submitting Expression of Interest must have following experiences (during the last 15 (Fifteen) years from the last date of submission of EOI and where only successfully completed projects will be considered for assessing experience. General experience in consulting services of Highway and Bridge construction projects in the areas of Detailed Design, Tender Assistance and Construction Supervision.

i. General Experience of Consulting Services in Highway and Bridge construction Projects in the areas of Detail Design, Tender Assistance and Construction Supervision,

ii. Specific experience of consulting services:

a. Experience of Detail Design and Construction Supervision of minimum 20 kilometer long Highway/Road/Expressway in a single contract.

b. Experience of Detail Design of Pre-Stressed Concrete (PC) Bridge having at least total accumulated length of 1,000 meter in a single contract.

c. Experience of Construction Supervision of Pre-Stressed Concrete (PC) Bridge having at least total accumulated length of 1,000 meter in a single contract.

d. Design and Construction Supervision of bridges of minimum 80-meter span length.

e. Experience of Consulting Services of Highway Projects in Developing Countries.

In addition to above, 5(i) and (ii) experiences, the consulting firms should preferably have the following experiences-

a. Experience of Japanese ODA Loan funded projects

b. Experience of Detail Design/Construction Supervision of PC U-Composite girder for bridge superstructure

c. Experience of Detail Design/Construction Supervision of Steel Box Girder Bridge for bridge superstructure

d. Experience of Detail Design/Construction Supervision of PC wells for bridge substructure

e. Experience of Soft-soil Treatment/Ground Improvement in the Detail Design/Construction Supervision of road/ bridge/ ground improvement Project.

6. The EOI should specifically include (along with certified English translation if not in English):

a. The firm's Registration Certificate

b. Company profile including management, personnel, firm's specialty, performance

c. General and specific experiences

d. Experience in design and construction supervision of Embankments, Highways, Flyovers, Steel box girder bridges, Pre-stressed Concrete (PC) Girder bridges, Highway interchanges, Highway intersections, culverts, sluice gates, soft soil improvement, slope protective works and drainage structures

e. Experiences in design and construction supervision of Highway/Bridge/Flyover projects (FIDIC contract basis) in developing countries

f. Experiences in design and construction supervision of Highway/Bridge/Flyover projects (FIDIC contract basis) in Bangladesh

g. Experience in Design and Construction supervision in Japanese ODA loan projects

h. In the above list for (c), (d), (e), (f) and (g), the following information should be provided: Client's name, address, country of project, email, phone contact, nature of service, contract amount and period, man-months deployed, duration of service with commencement and actual completion date, name of other firms in JV or association if any.

i. Number of Bridge, Highway, Geotechnical and other relevant engineers/professionals (permanent/full time and intermittent/contractual), those who belong to the firm for more than a year and average working experience (years) of these engineers and professionals

j. Audited financial statement (Balance sheet, Profit and loss statement and Cash flow statement for the last three years

k. History of litigation in courts or any arbitration proceedings (if any)

7. With all supporting documents, 02 signed hard copies of the EOI must be delivered at or before 1300 hours (Bangladesh Standard Time) on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023 in sealed envelope marked with the "EOI for Consulting Services of Chattogram-Cox's Bazar Highway Improvement Project" to the following address- Project Director, Chattogram-Cox's Bazar Highway Improvement Project (Bangladesh), RHD Foreign Aided Office Building (1st Floor), Road No. 27, Block-A Banani, Dhaka-1213 Phone and Email: +880241080627, [pdcbmrip@rhd.gov.bd](mailto:pdcbmrip@rhd.gov.bd), [pdccrossborder@gmail.com](mailto:pdccrossborder@gmail.com)

8. The Request for Proposal (RFP) is expected to be issued to the short listed Firms by 15 October 2023. The client will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by the firm's in connection with the preparation or submission of the EOI.

9. The EOI notice will be available at [www.rhd.gov.bd](http://www.rhd.gov.bd), [www.rthd.gov.bd](http://www.rthd.gov.bd), [www.cptu.gov.bd](http://www.cptu.gov.bd) (website)

10. RHD reserves the right to accept or reject one or all EOIs or stop the process of approval at any stage, at its sole discretion and shall bear no liability whatsoever consequent upon such a decision.

Shyamal Kumar Bhattacharyya

25/07/2023

Project Director

(Additional Chief Engineer, RHD)

Chattogram-Cox's Bazar Highway Improvement Project

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