



Park on railway land

Ex-minister's son occupied property using influence

S DILIP ROY, Lalmonirhat

Rakibuzzaman Ahmed, son of former Social Welfare Minister Nuruzzaman Ahmed, has allegedly occupied around 70 decimals of Bangladesh Railway land in Kaliganj upazila, Lalmonirhat, to build an entertainment park.

The land, located near Tushbhandar Railway Station on the Lalmonirhat-Burimari rail route, was previously used as a temporary village market. According to locals, the site remained open until April 2022 when Rakibuzzaman allegedly seized the land, erected a brick wall around it, and constructed the park, which includes a lake and other structures, reportedly for personal enjoyment with friends.

Rakibuzzaman, organising secretary of Lalmonirhat district Awami League and former chairman of Kaliganj Upazila Parishad, is also accused of misappropriating Tk 1.5 crore from district

and upazila councils and the office of the Project Implementation Officer.

He allegedly siphoned off the funds through 20 development projects under various names to build the park, sources from the three departments claim.

Both Rakibuzzaman and Nuruzzaman Ahmed have been absconding since the ouster of the Awami League government on August 5. Separate murder cases have also been filed against them.

Sources at the railway's divisional estate office in Lalmonirhat said a letter was sent to Rakibuzzaman, instructing him to halt the construction and vacate the premises. However, he ignored the directive.

Attempts to evict the park last year were reportedly thwarted by the influence of his father, the then minister. Preparations are now underway to demolish the illegal structures this month, said Purnendu Dey, divisional estate officer of railway in Lalmonirhat.



Riddled with potholes, this road near Joy Kali Mandir gets unusable after just half a day of rain. Like many streets in Dhaka, poor drainage worsens the situation, leaving the roads in a constant state of disrepair. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

DC APPOINTMENT Government to probe bribery allegation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government will form a high-level committee to investigate a news report published by Bangla daily Kalbela, which revealed WhatsApp conversations allegedly between the public administration secretary and a joint secretary over some financial transactions.

Shafiqul Alam, press secretary to Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus, confirmed this development during a media briefing at the Foreign Service Academy yesterday.

"We are closely examining the report concerning the public administration secretary. To address this issue, we are planning to set up a high-level committee composed of senior journalists. They will thoroughly investigate the report to determine its authenticity."

"While we uphold the importance of press freedom, at the same time we urge the media to ensure that their reporting is accurate and does not include any disinformation while presenting any news."

Shafiqul said the government expect that media outlets engage in responsible journalism, which holds the government accountable while contributing to national progress.

Referring to another report published by the same daily, which

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

Potholes plague key Gaibandha road

MOSTAFA SHABUJ, Bogura

The 12-kilometre road from Gobindaganj upazila town to Mahimaganj Railway Station in Gaibandha has long been in a dilapidated state and is in need of urgent repair and renovation.

The road, an important thoroughfare for around five lakh people from the district's Gobindaganj, Saghata and Phulchhari upazilas to reach the only railway station in the area, is now largely impassable for vehicles and pedestrians alike.



On the spot observations by this correspondent revealed that bitumen surface has worn off from 1km stretch of the road in Kochashahar Bazar area and another 500 metres within Gobindaganj Municipality.

This in turn led to formation of large potholes along the road, which accumulate water after rains, and hinder movement of people and vehicles.

"Just going to Kochashahar Bazar, merely 500 metres from our house, has become an ordeal due to the present condition of the road. Whenever it rains, the potholes accumulate knee-deep water, preventing anyone from using the road on foot, while making it risky for vehicular movement as well," said Anika

Mezhabeen, 24, of Kochashahar Collegepara area.

Nurunnabi Akand, a lecturer of Kochashahar Shilpanagari College and resident of Gobindaganj municipality, said the road requires repairs every year, but never sustains for long.

Nayarhat Bazar in Kochashahar union is a local hub of garments industries, where around 100 types of winter clothes are manufactured and has an annual turnover of around Tk 700 crore.

Local garments owners have to bear higher cost of transporting their products to different parts of the country due to the road's sorry state, said Mizanur Rahman, president of garments owners' association at Nayarhat Bazar.

Contacted, Atiqur Rahman Talukdar, engineer of Local Government Engineering Department in Gobindaganj upazila, said, "A budget of Tk 4.5 crore has been allocated to repair about 3km stretch of the road in Kochashahar Bazar and in front of Gobindaganj municipality. The work will begin in November after completing the tender procedure."

"The rest of the road will also be repaired with new bitumen surface," he added.

The road, an important thoroughfare for around five lakh people from the district's Gobindaganj, Saghata and Phulchhari upazilas to reach the only railway station in the area, is now largely impassable for vehicles and pedestrians alike.

Youth vital for development

Speakers tell event

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Emphasising the role of youth in shaping the future of Bangladesh, speakers at an event yesterday stressed that no development strategy can succeed without addressing the needs of the younger generation and ensuring their active involvement.

They made the remarks at the "9th Annual Knowledge Fair 2024" on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), organised by Share-Net Bangladesh, with the theme "YouthPower 2024 - Nothing Without Us", at a city hotel.

Inaugurating the event, Md Saifullahil Azam, director general of the Directorate General of Family Planning, highlighted that the majority of Bangladesh's population being young, their voices, energy, and ideas are crucial for the success of any plan.

Dr Vibhavendra Raghuyamshi, head of health at the UNFPA in Bangladesh, stressed the need to educate youth about reproductive health for achieving public health goals, including SDG 3.

He also stressed the importance of creating an environment where young people can openly discuss reproductive health, with strong government support.

Thijs Woudstra, chargé d'affaires at the Embassy of the Netherlands, said, "Youth are not just beneficiaries of economic growth; they should be active partners in driving progress, particularly in areas like health, gender equality, and climate action."

Dr Halida Hanum Akhter, chairperson of Share-Net Bangladesh's steering committee, also spoke.

More than 300 participants shared insights on SRHR, and young researchers presented their findings. Asian University for Women, Chattogram was this year's academic partner.

Idols vandalised in Kishoreganj and Pabna

STAR REPORT

Unidentified miscreants vandalised Durga idols in Kishoreganj and Pabna early yesterday.

In Kishoreganj, at least five idols were vandalised at Gopinath Mandir in Batrish area of the town, said Md Shamol Miah, inspector (investigation) of Kishoreganj Sadar Police Station.

Narayan Dutta Pradeep, president of the temple's committee, said, "Like other days, our guards remained on duty till 12:00am last night (Wednesday). When we came to the temple early in the morning, we found the idols vandalised. The culprits could not be identified since no one was present at the temple when the incident took place."

In Pabna, criminals vandalised three idols at a temple in Pal Para area of Sujanganj upazila.

Yesterday, police closed Sakiul Azam, officer-in-charge of Sujanganj Police Station, citing "public interest".

On September 29, miscreants vandalised at least four idols at Rishipara temple in the area.

Anisul shown held in murder case

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Former law minister Anisul Huq was shown arrested yesterday in another murder case, this one filed over the death of Al Amin Hossain in Dhaka's Badda area during the mass uprising on August 5.

Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Md Syful Islam passed the order after Investigation Officer Md Ahsan Habib, a sub-inspector of Badda Police Station, produced Anisul before it.

The case filed by victim's mother against Sheikh Hasina, Anisul Huq and 45 others, said Al Amin took part in the movement in Badda around 3:30pm on August 5 where he was shot dead.

Anisul Huq was also shown arrested in 16 other murder cases.

Dhaka Electric Supply Company Ltd. (DESCO)
22/B, Kobi Farrukh Sarani, Nikunja-2, Khilkhet, Dhaka-1229, Bangladesh
Tel. No: +88 02 8900110-11, 8900820-23, Fax No: +88 02 8900100
Email: pit@desco.gov.bd, Web: www.desco.gov.bd

e-Tender Notice

e-Tenders are being invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the following packages as the detailed e-Tender Notices have been published therein:

Tender ID	Tender Name	Tender Document Last Selling/Downloading Date and Time	Closing Date and Time	Opening Date and Time
1016771	Procurement of Super Enamel Wire	30 October 2024 15:30	31 October 2024 15:30	31 October 2024 15:30
1010143	Procurement of Paper	23 October 2024 15:30	24 October 2024 15:30	24 October 2024 15:30
1013865	Procurement of Bill Format	20 October 2024 15:30	21 October 2024 14:51	21 October 2024 14:51

These are online Tenders, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in the National e-GP System Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.

To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal is required.

The fees for downloading the e-Tender Document from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank branch.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Interested Tenderers can communicate with the undersigned during office hours.

30 September 2024
Memo No: 27.24.0000.021.07.040.24.1273

Engr. Mohammad Kamruzzaman
Superintending Engineer (P&T)

AL demands arrest of attackers of its leaders, activists

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Awami League yesterday demanded arrests of those responsible for attacking, looting, and setting fire to the homes of its leaders and activists.

In a statement posted on the AL's verified Facebook page, the party also demanded the government arrest "notorious BNP terrorists" before picking up AL activists.

AL warned that "extremists" would fight against the law enforcement agencies across the country like they are doing around Dhaka and in the CHT.

"The Awami League activists are being arrested. The illegal Yunus government is more focused on eliminating Awami League to solidify its power." The statement said if anyone thinks of destroying AL through oppression, then they are living in a fool's paradise.

"Awami League's roots run deep. It is intrinsically linked with the birth of this nation. The party will regain its strength and advance the country's unfinished development work. It will establish Bangladesh as a developed nation," said the post.

Offenders within the party were brought to justice even during the previous AL rule, it said. "If anyone is an offender, the person should be tried under the law of the land. We created a peaceful environment by showing zero tolerance against terrorism."

বাংলাদেশ চা বোর্ড
প্রধান কার্যালয়
১৭১-১৭২, বায়েজিদ বোস্তামী রোড
নাসিরাবাদ, চট্টগ্রাম
www.teaboard.gov.bd
দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

১	সহকারী/বিভাগ	বাণিজ্য সহকারী
২	বেসি/কর্মী/সহকারী	বাংলাদেশ চা বোর্ড
৩	সহকারী/সহকারী	বাংলাদেশ চা বোর্ড
৪	সহকারী/সহকারী	বাংলাদেশ চা বোর্ড
৫	সহকারী/সহকারী	বাংলাদেশ চা বোর্ড
৬	সহকারী/সহকারী	বাংলাদেশ চা বোর্ড
৭	সহকারী/সহকারী	বাংলাদেশ চা বোর্ড
৮	সহকারী/সহকারী	বাংলাদেশ চা বোর্ড
৯	সহকারী/সহকারী	বাংলাদেশ চা বোর্ড
১০	সহকারী/সহকারী	বাংলাদেশ চা বোর্ড
১১	সহকারী/সহকারী	বাংলাদেশ চা বোর্ড
১২	সহকারী/সহকারী	বাংলাদেশ চা বোর্ড
১৩	সহকারী/সহকারী	বাংলাদেশ চা বোর্ড
১৪	সহকারী/সহকারী	বাংলাদেশ চা বোর্ড
১৫	সহকারী/সহকারী	বাংলাদেশ চা বোর্ড
১৬	সহকারী/সহকারী	বাংলাদেশ চা বোর্ড
১৭	সহকারী/সহকারী	বাংলাদেশ চা বোর্ড

30/09/2024
সিনিয়র সিনিয়র
০২/১০/২০২৪

GD- 618