

Saga of Untied Fund Scam



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In the wake of growing [demands](#), especially from a [group](#) of conscious citizens, the [chief](#) minister's Vigilance and Anti-[corruption](#) Cell arrested five persons including two then Additional Deputy Commissioners for their alleged involvement with a multi crore rupees scam taken place in Jorhat during 2013-15. The two then ADC Anjanabh Chaliha and Bubul Lekharu, arrested by the Vigilance Cell, are now in judicial custody along with two contractors, who were also arrested in the same case. [One](#) accused is now in the custody of the Vigilance Cell after he was remanded by the Special Court of Assam for the same. The [Vigilance](#) Cell has registered a case under various sections of the IPC and the Prevention of [Corruption Act](#).

The multi crore scam, allegedly, occurred in implementation of various schemes from the Untied Fund earmarked for the district in the year 2013-15. The investigation to the scam revealed that Anjananabh Chaliha, the then ADC [as](#) well [as](#) the main accused of the scam, allegedly conspired with two Office Assistants namely Prabhat Dutta and Sandhya Rani Mazoomdar in the Planning and [Development](#) branch of the Deputy Commissioner's office, to embezzle more than rupees 30 crore earmarked under the Untied Fund. Meanwhile, the investigating agency, reportedly, [found](#) out huge misappropriation of money of other [development](#) funds too, in the district from the year 2013 to 2015 when Bishal Basanta Solanki was the Deputy Commissioner.

According to information, the accused of the Untied Fund scam also, allegedly, misappropriated MPLADs and MLALADs Funds besides the fund of the Gyanjyoti scheme. The Vigilance Cell's investigation came into light that the accused withdrew cash from different bank accounts, maintained by the then DC, by self-drawing cheques in different course of time. ADC Chaliha was also posted [as](#) the District [Development](#) Officer (DDO) then, who, allegedly, had broken down the Financial Discipline of the government's in disbursing funds from various [development](#) schemes.

The investigation revealed that the then DDO allotted government works without calling NIT for favouring some contractors besides granting funds for private institutions and NGOs. The contractors, in turn, allegedly offered commissions to the DDO. Meanwhile, the Vigilance Cell arrested two contractors Prabhat Dutta and Ujjaljyoti Borah, who were known [as](#) close associates with the then DDO.

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