METROPOLÎTAN/NEWS

HOSPITAL WASTE MANAGEMENT

'Formulate policy to avoid serious health hazards'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Formulate a national policy for the management of hospital wastes which are putting public health at high risk, urged the speakers at a press conference yesterday.

They said the city dwellers are inhaling crore of germs everyday due to dumping of hospital wastes in dustbins and open spaces.

The press conference was organised by Greens, an environmental care organisation, at Dhaka Reporters' Unity (DRU) Auditorium.

health hazards caused by hospital wastes, the speakers said the street scavengers are worst affected by hospital wastes as they handle the wastes with bare hands.

The scavengers could be con-

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Finance and Planning Minister M

Saifur Rahman advised research-

ers to do life-oriented researches

instead of doing researches that

guest at the launching ceremony

of the book titled 'Who gets what:

A gender analysis of public

expenditure in Bangladesh' at

RDEC Building conference room

of LGED Bhaban at Agargaon in

Evers, a gender consultant and

Kaniz Siddique, a faculty member

of North South University (NSU)

and published by University Press

The finance minister unveiled

'Researchers need to go to the

the 360-page book priced at Tk

field to see what a tremendous

social transformation has taken

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

City Mayor ABM Mohiuddin

Chowdhury has warned the gov-

ernment of waging tougher agita-

tion if it does not refrain from its

move to construct a pillar-based

bridge instead of a suspension

plan to go-ahead with a pillar-

based bridge by all means and will

not even hesitate to spare our lives

to make sure that a suspension

bridge, as per the recommenda-

tion of experts, is constructed in its

place." announced the mayor at a

huge public rally on the Karnaphuli

Shah Amanat Bridge premises

Nagorik Committee

Chittagong, a citizens' rights forum

of the port city, organised the rally

protesting government move for

constructing a pillar-based bridge

and demanding suspension

bridge in its place

"We will resist government's

bridge on the river Karnaphuli.

The book is edited by Barbara

the city yesterday.

Limited (UPL).

He was speaking as the chief

have little attachment to reality.

taminated easily with HIV or Hepatitis B virus and other infectious diseases, they said, adding the germs could also spread to their family members.

Dr Mahmudur Rahman, president of Greens, said medical organisations like hospitals, clinics and diagnostic centres are constantly polluting the environment and endangering public health with a wide range of medical waste but the hospital authorities do not have any initiative regarding the waste

According to Dhaka City Corporation, over 600 metric tons of waste is produced daily from numerous hospitals, clinics and other healthcare service providing organisations, he said, adding that a research report of the World Bank

US Ambassador to Bangladesh Patricia A Butenis visits the residence of slain Awami League leader Ahsan Ullah

Master at Tongi yesterday. She conveyed sympathy to his wife Farida Ahsan and his sons Zahid Ahsan Rasel MP and

Saifur for life-oriented

place in the rural areas in terms of

women development and empow-

research director of Bangladesh

Institute of Development Studies

(BIDS), reviewed the book at the

occasion while Japp Vander

Zeeuw, Charge d Affairs of

Netherlands Embassy in Dhaka.

Kristian Jervell, first secretary of

Royal Norwegian Embassy and

Dr Mohammad Tareque, addi-

tional secretary (Budget) of the

Ministry of Finance spoke at the

occasion chaired by Dr Hafiz GA

Siddique, vice-chancellor of NSU.

Netherlands Embassy and Royal

Norwegian Embassy, the book

includes nine different chapters

I am a real life politician and I

analysing different gender

believe in real life politics,' Saifur

said adding that it is not possible

to say who gets what of budget, as

Tougher agitation if govt goes

vehicular movement on both sides

of the bridge from 10.00am to

passages to vehicles carrying

women, children and patients on

ignoring the reservations

expressed by various authorities

and quarters, the Roads and

Highways Department (RHD) on

July 13 signed a Tk 338 crore

contract with a Chinese company

China Major Bridge (CMB) for the

construction of Karnaphuli Third

Nazmul Huda is expected to

formally inaugurate the construc-

tion work of the proposed bridge

on August 7.

Communication Minister

It is further alleged that the

design of the bridge submitted by

CMB is a faulty one but the com-

munication ministry had forced

the RHD to sign the deal.

humanitarian ground.

The organisers, however, gave

It may be mentioned that

ahead with pillar-based one

aspects.

KARNAPHULI THIRD BRIDGE

Ctg mayor threatens at rally

Funded by both Royal

Dr Rushidan Islam Rahman.

erment' said Saifur.

research works

said around Tk 350 crore loss is being incurred every year due to environmental pollution.

Dr Rahman suggested installation of auto-clave machine, similar to pressure cooker, which raises the temperature to 122 degree celsius to make the wastes like used syringes, gloves and others

"We are not aware that we are inhaling crore of germs every moment through air pollution caused by hospital wastes," he said, adding that a government policy along with public awareness is a must to solve the deadly

Prof Abu Syed Ahmed Siddique, a plastic surgeon, presented a slide show titled 'Medical wastes: Major health hazard' at the press confer-

the preview of the topic is very

wide. He also opined that

researches should be specifically

get a great part of national budget as

education, health and communica-

tion ministries allocate a great deal

of money to increase women activi-

Describing various achieve-

ment of Bangladesh in gender

equality and empowerment,

Saifur mentioned student enrol-

ment rate in primary level in this

country is the highest in the

South Asia and 65 per cent of the

primary students are girls. The

finance minister also said that

gender parity is one of the funda-

Japp Vander Zeeuw said that

Bangladesh has progressed a lot

in the field of women empower-

ment. However, she has a lot to do

it will waste the fund and cause

communication minister,

Mohiuddin said, "We would defi-

nitely resist him (Nazmul Huda) if

he comes on August 7 in

Chittagong to inaugurate the

construction of a pillar-based

bridge. But we will greet him

heartily if he comes here for a

move to build a pillar-based

bridge is nothing but a conspiracy

to destroy Chittagong city, the

a bridge. We need a bridge on the

Karnaphuli. But we want to make

it sure that it must be a suspen-

Bahadur MP, Nurul Islam, Kazi

Inamul Haq Danu, Khorshed

Alam Sujan, Jatiya Samajtantrik

Dal leader Moinuddin Khan Badal

"Our movement is not against

Awami League leaders Bir

port and the river Karnaphuli.

The mayor alleged that the

suspension bridge."

sion bridge," he said

Sounding a note of warning to

heavy siltation in the river.

Strategic Paper (PRSP) goals.

mentals of the budget.

He also mentioned that women

narrated.

ence demonstrating how various diseases are caused by hospital

He also pointed out that around 3350 metric tons of wastes including 670 metric tons of hospital wastes are being produced in the city everyday

Greens Secretary General Rezwan Maruf urged the government to formulate a policy for the management of hospital wastes to avoid serious health

Hasan Mahmud Nipu, secretary general of Greens' New York unit, and Dr Khandaker Mohammad Shafigur Rahman, an advisor of Greens, also spoke at the confer-

B Chowdhury to contest from Dhaka-7

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bikalpa Dhara Bangladesh (BDB) President Badruddoza Chowdhury and Secretary General Abdul Mannan will contest the next parliamentary election from Dhaka-7 and Dhaka-10 constituencies respectively, Organising Secretary Mahi B Chowdhury told a workers' conference in the city yesterday.

Mahi said the party will also contest in Dhaka-4 but it is yet to nominate a candidate for this con-

Dhaka city Mayor Sadek Hossain Khoka is the present lawmaker of Dhaka-7, comprising Kotwali and Sutrapur thanas.

Addressing the leaders and workers of BDB's labour front, Mahi B Chowdhury said they are working to form a united front to oust the present 'tyrant' rulers to install a propeople government and urged the activists to help them make this

Bulu gets bail in cheque bounce case

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court vesterday granted bail to industrialist MNH Bulu in a cheque bounce case.

With this, he got bail in all four cases filed against him. The cheque bounce case was filed by Noor Hossain, a businessman, on

Earlier, Bulu filed a case against Housing and Public Works Minister Mirza Abbas and Managing Director of private satellite TV channel Boishakhi Kazi Mohammad Shahidullah. At a press conference yester-

day, Bulu, who claims to be a director of Boishaki, said he is now trying to reach a settlement with Mirza Abbas and Shahidullah. He also urged the government to

take action against some frauds who have been harassing him by filing cases.

Bulu had been arrested on May 31 after his estranged wife Hosne Ara Naznin and Abdus Salam Majumdar filed two separate cases with Gulshan Police Station, Noor Hossain also filed another case against him.

Four arms dealers held at Cox's Bazar

COX'S BAZAR CORRESPONDENT

Police vesterday arrested four and recovered eight arms at Cox's

Acting on a tip off, a team of Police raided Koheliya River at Moheshkhali Upazila and arrested Abdul Gafur, 25, Noorul Hakim, 22, Rokeya Begum, 35 and Abdul Hakim, 35

Ramu Police Station said the arrestees are professional arms

Qulkhwani

Qulkhwani of Lutfunnesa Begum, mother of AKM Muhit Uddin, chairman of Khan Sons' Group, will be held at House #45, Road #7, Block-G, Banani after Asr prayers on Friday. She passed away at

Shahabuddin Medical College Hospital at Gulshan on July 17 at the age of 81. She left behind five sons, two

daughters and a host of relatives and well-wishers to mourn her



Bangladesh Sarkari Unnayan Prakalpa Karmakarta Karmachari Kalyan Parishad continue fast-unto-death for the third day in the city yesterday.

Indoor air pollution main cause of infant deaths

WB proposes pilot project

The World Bank has proposed a pilot project to reduce indoor air pollution which is now one of the leading causes of the infant deaths after waterborne and sanitation-

Asian University students withdraw agitation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Asian University students of Uttara campus vesterday withdrew their agitation after the authorities concerned assured them of meeting

It was decided at a meeting with the vice-chancellor.

Classes will resume on the campus tomorrow.

The students began agitation on Sunday demanding appointment of a permanent vice chancellor, removal of two teachers, appointment of quality teachers and a decrease in fees like semester 'late fees' and 'retake' fees.

The students, on the fourth day of agitation, confined the staffs of administrative building to their office for four hours, snapped electricity supply and ransacked the BBA department, to force the vice chancellor to sit in a dialogue.

They also put the administrative and the BBA buildings under lock and key at 11:00am. The agitating students also put

up barricade on the road, burnt tyres and stopped vehicular move They gave Vice Chancellor Abul Hasan Mohammad Sadeg a one-

hour ultimatum to meet their Later, VC agreed to meet with

them at 3:00pm. The VC, Registrar Ziaruddin

Ahmed and other senior teachers were present at the meeting with about 200 agitating students held at the campus auditorium.

The agitating students said the authorities agreed to withdraw two teachers from the main campus and fix 'retake fees' at 30 percent.

"The university authorities also assured us of appointing quality teachers, publishing result in due time, increasing major subjects, computer laboratory and library facility and setting up of a 'Complaint Box'," said a student who was present at the meeting

WB sources said they proposed

the "Indoor Air Pollution (IAP) Reduction" project recently as it is an environmental hazard, which needs to be addressed to reach the health-related millennium development goal (MDG) by 2015.

The project will build a community-led approach to address the problems associated with conventional cooking practices and its direct health risks, the sources

The project will be implemented in the areas where Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) has become successful as it could easily make behavioural changes among household members of the community.

The Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) of the Ministry of Local Government will implement the project in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and Forest, NGOs and union

The Bangladesh Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (BCSIR) under the Ministry of Science and Technology will provide technical support.

The project will work on behaviour changes, improved housing, low-cost and cleaner energy technologies and introduce improved biomass stoves and improved processed fuels through various technical and capacity building

A Bangladesh Country Environmental Analysis (CEA) conducted by the WB in collaboration with the government found that indoor air directly affects lactating mothers and young children.

These results suggest that a major portion of premature deaths crimes in order to avoid police, he of under-five children is attributable to indoor air pollution, said the WB sources.

Light to moderate rain likely

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at most places over Khulna, Barisal, and Sylhet divisions and at many places over Rajshahi, Dhaka and Chittagong divisions in the next 12 hours until 6:00pm today.

Moderately heavy to heavy falls are also likely at places, Met Office said, predicting slight fall in day temperature over the country. Highest temperature 33.2 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday

at Rajshahi and lowest 23.5 degree Celsius at Rangamati. The sun sets in the capital at 6:47pm today and rises at

5:23am tomorrow. Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some

major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	29.2	25.3	92	85
Chittagong	28.6	24.5	96	83
Rajshahi	33.2	26.8	83	87
Khulna	32.7	25.4	98	90
Barisal	29.2	25.5	92	92
Sylhet	30.3	25.6	87	88
Cox's Bazar	29.8	24.5	100	92

আইনজীবী, বুদ্ধিজীবী, পেশাজীবী ও সুশীল সমাজের সাথে शुष्ठ शुष সংসদে পরিশ্রান लाख शल সংরক্ষিত 🕰 বাংলাদেশ মহিলা পরিষদ বিশেষকরে নারী আসন श्य श्या

to govt control Says senior cop STAFF CORRESPONDENT A senior police official of Dhaka

efficiently due

Police can't work

Metropolitan Police (DMP) yesterday said the police cannot work efficiently as they are controlled by the government.

"The police in foreign countries." ncluding the US and the UK, work independently, but in Bangladesh they are under government con-DMP Commissioner SM Mizanur Rahman said while exchanging views with crime reporters at Rajarbagh Telecom Auditorium in the city.

Explaining the present situation he said the police have to spend more time maintaining law and order during political programmes than curbing crimes.

Acknowledging that there is an increase in incidents of mugging and drug peddling in the city, the DMP commissioner said youths from elite families nowadays are even

engaged in mugging incidents. They are also adopting new methods and strategies to commit

To cope with such a situation, more plainclothes policemen have been deployed and vigilance has

been increased, he added. Referring to the increase in drug peddling in the city, he said 48 cases, out of 72, were filed in this

connection on Tuesday alone The DMP commissioner also criticised some police officials who try to suppress information relating to crimes and corruption. He asked all the police officers to disclose such

He also said five more police stations in the city will be inaugurated next week

Two found unconscious

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two people were admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) in unconscious state in different incidents in the city yester-Abu Sufian, 35, an expatriate in

Kuwait, was found unconscious near Rapa Plaza, Dhanmondi at around 11:30 am. Locals brought him to DMCH where they contacted his family members after getting the address from his purse. His family members said that

Abu didn't reach home after arriving from Kuwait yesterday. They also said that Abu was supposed to carry Tk 3 lakh from Kuwait that could not be found from his posses-In a separate incident Mezbah

Rahman, 35, a motor parts trader, hailed from Kushtia, was admitted to DMCH unconscious. SI Asaduzzaman Ripon who found him at Shahbagh area brought him Police recovered Tk 41, 500

from his possession.

Details of these incidents could not be known, since both the victims were unconscious

Quake shakes Pak-Iran border AP, Islamabad

A moderate earthquake jolted an

area along Pakistan's border with neighbouring Iran yesterday, but there were no reports of injuries or any damage, an official said. The magnitude 5.1 quake - at

4:27am (2327 GMT) - was centered somewhere on the Pakistan-Iran border, about 1,200 kilometres (745 miles) west of the northwestern city of Peshawar, said Nasir Mahmood, assistant meteorologist at the state-run Seismological Centre in Peshawar.

The city mayor presided over it. Experts believe that the and Jatiya Party leader Prof Thousands of people from all Kuwait government funded 900-Saber Ahmed also addressed the Qulkhwani will also be held a Bangladesh Mahila Parishad General Secretary Ayesha Khanam speaks at a view exchange meeting at the Cirdap strata and activists and supporters meter- long bridge if implemented different mosques, madrasahs and auditorium in the city yesterday. On her left are Hena Das and Justice K M Sobhan and on her right is Advocate of 14-party opposition coalition schools at Kahua village of Bux as per government wish will not Masuma Rehana Begum. joined the rally by blockading the serve the actual purposes, rather Mahmud Union in Fenithe same day.