

'Arrest those responsible for Masum's death'

CU CORRESPONDENT

Chittagong Light Vehicle Drivers and Workers' Union here yesterday staged demonstrations demanding arrest of those responsible for the custodial death of Masum, a microbus driver of KDS Apparel and compensation to the victim's family.

The union leaders at a rally held at the Outer Stadium in the afternoon vowed to continue their agita-

tion until the 'killers' of Masum are arrested and the family is compensated.

Union President Shah Alam Firozi presided over the rally.

Mohammed Masum, a microbus driver of KDS Apparel, was arrested as a suspect in the case filed in connection with the mugging of Tk 21 lakh of KDS factory on September 6.

He was placed on a four-day

remand and died during interrogation at Bayezid Bostami Police Station on September 8.

The family members and microbus drivers' union alleged that Masum was tortured to death.

The police refuted the allegation and claimed that the victim committed suicide hanging himself from the ceiling.



PHOTO: STAR

Children take part in a drawing competition organised by the Bogra Writers' Circle on Bogra Zila Parishad premises yesterday.

World Heritage sites may soon be off tourism map

REUTERS, London

World Heritage sites such as Australia's Great Barrier Reef or Kathmandu in Nepal could be taken off the tourism map by 2020 due to the effects of climate change and too many visitors, a think tank said yesterday.

In a report prepared for UK insurance company Churchill, the Centre for Future Studies (CFS) listed 10 popular destinations that could be either permanently closed or have a visitor cap within 15 years.

"I'm reasonably confident we're going to see an increasing climate degradation that is going to impact on various places in the world with increasing severity," CFS director Frank Shaw told Reuters.

"Floods, storms, droughts, increasing and erratic temperatures will combine to bring about changes in destination choice for tourists."

Florida's Everglades in the United States, Athens in Greece,

Croatia's Dalmatian coastline, Tuscany and the Amalfi Coast in Italy as well as the Maldives are some of the other destinations at risk highlighted by the report.

The study drew on evidence provided by scientists, governments, as well as tourism and environmental organisations from around the world.

Tourism activity on the Great Barrier Reef, situated off Queensland state in Australia's northeast, injects an estimated two billion pounds into the local economy each year.

"There is a conflict between environmental concerns and commercial interests," added Shaw. "For some countries tourism represents a significant part of their gross domestic product."

"But there is evidence Australia and many other governments are considering what can be done to protect national assets."