

Metropolitan

Dateline Chittagong

Mass resistance against pollution sought

CHITTAGONG, Jan 19 : Speakers, at a seminar on environment pollution, its protection and remedy, called for associating common people with environment protection movement in order to build up a mass resistance against pollution of atmosphere, reports BSS.

They pointed out that unless commonmen were made aware of the main causes of environment pollution and its serious consequences on man and other creatures, the movement for protection of environment could not be successful.

The seminar, held under the auspices of Lion District-315-b at the Zaker Hussein road Lions' Foundation in Chittagong Friday with Lion District governor M. Abdul Malek presiding was participated by lions Dr A F M Yusuf, Eyed A K Mahmudul Huq, engineer M. Shahjahan Khan, Kazi Akram Uddin Ahmad, Prof Abul Kashem Chowdhury and S M Khaleed Chowdhury. Mr S M Waliullah of the Department of Botany, Government City College, Chittagong presented main article on the subject.

The participants stressed the need for sound planning, management, exploration and utilisation of water, forest and other natural resources of any country in such a way that

they did not pollute environment, nor they could destroy ecological balance.

They called for national and international efforts in protecting environment saying, environment pollution has assumed an alarming proportion all over the world and as such all world nations should put in concerted efforts to protect it.

Expressing concern over wide-spread destruction of forests, spread of industrial waste and nuclear explosions, polluting world atmosphere. They said that international cooperation was indispensable to check them. Use of fertilizers, insecticides, emitting of black smoke by vehicles, pressure of population on cities, throwing of chemical waste in seas and rivers were directly polluting environment in many countries, particularly in the poor third world countries, they said.

The participants said Bangladesh could be cited as an example where environment pollution was constant and alarming.

In Bangladesh forest is ruthlessly destroyed and now only eight per cent of its total land is covered by forest whereas scientifically at least 25 per cent of the total land of a country should remain under forest to maintain ecological balance, they added.

They called upon the people to be aware of the grave consequences of polluted atmosphere on man's health and surrounding environments and preserve forests and trees in their own interests.

Ctg Press Club AGM held

Another reports adds : The annual general meeting of Chittagong Press Club was held in the Jamalkhan temporary office on Friday.

The meeting was held in two sessions. The first session was inaugurated by Poet Ohidul Alam while Club President Mr Ataul Hakim presided. Poet Ohidul Alam called upon the journalists to seek and establish truth in order to uphold the great tradition of the profession.

Convener of Sammilite Pehajibi Sangram Parishad Mr Abdul Mannan Chittagong Bar Association President Advocate Ahmad Hussain, CUJ President Akhtarun Nabi, Sangbadik Cooperative Housing Society Chairman Mahbulul Alam, Club General Secretary Nizam Uddin also addressed the session.

The afternoon session was presided over by journalist Kazi Zafarul Islam. General Secretary Nizam Uddin presented his report in this session.

PROGRAMME

Dewangonj Samity

Dewangonj Samity in Dhaka will organise two Eye Camps to treat several hundred eye patients in Dewangonj Upazila, in February next, reports BSS.

The Eye Camps will be open in Dewangonj town on February 6, 7 and 8 and in Sharnadabari area on February 7, 8 and 9, a press release said.

The annual general meeting of the Samity will also be held on February 15 at 4.30 pm at the Institute of Cost Management Accountants of Bangladesh at Nilkhet.

Members have been requested to collect entry passes to attend the meeting which will be followed by elections, cultural show and dinner.

Quality control seminar

A two-day "second Company-Wide Quality Control (CWQC) seminar" will begin today (Sunday) at 9.30 am at the seminar room of the Institution of Engineers, reports BSS.

The seminar, under the auspices of the Association for Overseas Technical Scholarship (AOTS), will be participated by nearly 100 executives of prominent organisations of the country.

Rokeya memorial lecture

Rokeya Memorial Foundation Lecture will be held tomorrow (Monday) at Rokeya Hall auditorium, Dhaka University. The lecture is a part of the annual programme on Begum Rokeya organised by Rokeya Memorial Foundation, according to press release.

Mohila Parishad confce

The national conference of Bangladesh Mahila Parishad will be held on January 24 at the Institution of Engineers and Technology, says a press release.

Rose Society

The annual general meeting of Bangladesh National Rose Society will be held on January 24 at Khady Bhaban, 16, Abdul Gani Road in the city, says a press release.

Seminar on military rule

A seminar on "Military Rule in Brazil, 1964-1965: A Critique" will be held at the Social Science Research Centre, Dhaka University, at 3 pm tomorrow (Monday), says a Press release.

The paper will be presented by Ruksana Kabir, Assistant Professor of the Department of International Relations, Dhaka University while Professor Talukdar Moniruzzaman, Professor Nurul Momen, Mohammed Shahiduzzaman, Dr Dalin Chandra Barman and Mr. Sarder Amin will be the discussants.

Peace Council

To evaluate the situation in the war-torn Middle East and Gulf and for taking programme of action for peace, the Bangladesh Peace Council (BPC) will hold an urgent general body meeting on January 20 at 4 p.m. at the residence of architect Mazharul Islam at 3, Paribagh, Dhaka, according to a Press release. All members of the BPC have been requested to attend the meeting.

Siphsa

A general meeting of the Smoking and Intoxicant Preventive Human Service Association (SIPHSa) was held on Friday at Mallbag Bipani Btan (second floor), says a press release.

Shandhani arranges 299 cornea-grafting

by Inam Ahmed and Manirul Islam Khan

Shandhani Jatiya Chakkkhu Dan Samity has arranged the grafting of about 299 corneas since 1987.

The demand for cornea-grafting has greatly increased. Presently, 367 listed persons are awaiting their eye sights to be restored.

Sources said, there are in Bangladesh about ten lakh blind people, almost half of them due to cornea related reasons. Most of the 30 thousand children who become blind each year are afflicted with cornea problems.

Sources said poor eye donation pledges are hampering the eye sight restoration programme. Till now, about 9,512 persons have pledged to do-

Sources said only institute of Ophthalmology and Institute of Post Graduate Medicine and Research (IPOMR) have this kind of microscope.

Trephine, another instrument for cutting out cornea from eye, is available only these two institutes. Without this instrument the eye has to be totally removed from socket while collecting cornea.

Sources said that Shandhani suffers from communication problem as corneas have to be collected within six hours of a donor's death. Moreover, a cornea has to be grafted within 72 hours of its collection. This poses a problem in collecting corneas from donors in distance places.



Flashback - Prominent eye donors in a Shandhani function included Mohammad Nasiruddin, Editor, Saogat, Begum Sulfa Kamal, late painter Kamrul Hassan, Kalim Sarafi and Dr. Enamul Huq.

Bring back troops from Riyadh : Menon

by Staff Correspondent Workers Party Secretary Rashed Khan Menon appealed to cast vote for those who struggled in the street for ousting what he called autocratic ruler in a public meeting at Kachukhet bazar on Friday afternoon.

He said that the triumph against autocracy did not belong to any party of individual.

He told the voters to remain alert against conspiracy. UNB adds: Menon urged the caretaker Government to bring the troops back home from Saudi Arabia.

In a press statement Menon said the troops were sent by the ousted Ershad Government drawing Bangladesh into 'the war conspiracy of the US against the will of the people.'

"Since the caretaker Government is the united Government of the three alliances, it should not follow any policy opposed by them," Menon, who is also Five-Party Alliance leader, said.

\$ 38 m Japanese aid to UN relief body

Japan will provide an emergency contribution of 38 million US dollars (5.1 billion yen approximately) to the United Nations Disaster Relief Organisation (UNDRO) for the evacuees now thronging the arcas near the border between Iraq and neighbouring States, reports BSS.

A Japanese Embassy press release issued in Dhaka Friday said that the contribution was made at the call of the UNDRO to the international community on January 11 that the amount would be required for meeting the start-up costs of the evacuation.

The UNDRO representing related international organisations estimated that 175 million US dollars would be needed for relief and repatriation of the project 400,000 evacuees expected to arrive in the States neighbouring Iraq at the early stage of the war.

In addition to this, Japanese government also decided to donate 6,000 blankets to the UNDRO in case influx of evacuees into the neighbouring countries of Iraq increased.

Japan has already provided over 22 million U.S dollar in emergency aid to relief international organisations and governments for the relief of the evacuees resulting from Gulf crisis, the press release said.

3 killed in road mishaps

From Our Correspondent Two persons were killed and 10 others injured when a bus skidded off the road and turned turtle at Cox's Bazar-Teknaf road on Friday.

The injured persons were admitted to the Teknaf Hospital.

A case has been registered with Teknaf thana. The driver escaped.

A correspondent from Narayanganj adds: Another victim of Wednesday's bus accident at Mallikpara under Sonargaon upazila died at Narayanganj hospital on Friday.

Jashimuddin (20), a student of Bangladesh Krira Shikkhya Pratistan (BKSP), was seriously injured in the accident. A football player of BKSP Jashimuddin was coming from Comilla.

Indian HC reception chancelled

The reception scheduled for January 26, at the residence of the Indian High Commission here to celebrate the Indian Republic day has been cancelled due to the Gulf crisis, a Press release of the Indian High Commission yesterday, reports BSS.

The receptions organised on the same day by the Indian Assistant High Commissioners in Chittagong and Rajshahi are also cancelled.



Supporters of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein brought out a number of processions and rallies in Dhaka city. In one of the rallies an effigy of US President George Bush was burnt while the supporters held aloft a photo of smiling Saddam.

BNP candidates urged to procure certified letters

The Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) has requested its nominated candidates of the parliamentary elections to procure certified letters from MR. A.K.M. Peraz Noon, Chief Election Coordinator of BNP, House No 5, Road 10, Dhanmondi Residential Area, reports BSS.

The candidates themselves or their nominated persons have been requested to procure the letters immediately, a Press release said.

Jafar Imam's nomination valid

The Election Commission has declared valid the nomination papers of former minister and joint-Secretary General of the Jatiya Party Lt Col. (Retd) Jafar Imam in the Penu-1 on Friday constituency, a Jatiya Party press release said here last night in Dhaka, reports BSS.

The validity of Mr. Jafar Imam's nomination papers came following the hearing to his appeal filed with the Election Commission, the press release added.

THE STAR SERVICE

Table listing various services including Hospitals (DMCH, PG, SMC, etc.), Bus Service (BRTC, Terminal, etc.), Hotels (Sonargaon, Sheraton, etc.), Police (DMP Exchange, Control Room, etc.), Railway (Inquiry, Reservation, etc.), Airlines (Airport Inquiry, Airport Customs, etc.), and Others (Moghbazar, etc.).

Airlines Schedule table with columns for Arrival and Departure, listing flight numbers, airlines, and destinations.

Intercity Trains table with columns for Train, Departure, Arrival, and City, listing various train routes and schedules.

Intercity Trains table (continued) with columns for Train, Departure, Arrival, and City, listing various train routes and schedules.

Advertisement for 'দি ডেইলী স্টার' (The Daily Star) newspaper, mentioning subscription rates and contact information.

Ecology workshop

The workshop on ecological bases for water resource management in hypertrophic and polluted tropical freshwater communities has been postponed due to unavoidable circumstances, reports BSS.

Field-level officers being trained to handle disasters

A week-long training programme on disaster management for the field managers of Cyclone Preparedness Programme (CPP) began here yesterday under the auspices of the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS), reports BSS.

Development officers and Upazila level team leaders of the CPP from coastal areas are participating in the training programme which included courses on technical knowledge on natural disasters, particularly cyclonic storms, disaster management, promotion of leadership ability and first aid coverage.

Specialised persons from the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society the Institute of Business Administration (IBA) of the University of Dhaka, the

Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS), Bangladesh Materiology Department and SPARSO will conduct the training courses.

Inaugurating the course, Chairman of the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, Brig (Retd.) M.S. Bari said that the BDRCS has given adequate emphasis on disaster management programme of the CPP. He said that the training course was a part of the disaster management programme and expressed the hope that the trainees would utilize the knowledge from the course in their place of duty. "We cannot avoid natural calamity but through timely measures we can limit the extent of loss",

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS section with details on how to place ads, including contact information for The Daily Star.

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