

Take steps to protect biodiversity Minister urges int'l community

BSS, Dhaka

Environment and Forest Minister Shajahan Siraj yesterday called on the international community to take effective steps to stem environmental degradation for protecting biodiversity and preventing natural disasters.

"I like to make a clarion call to the international community and the United Nations for taking more fruitful steps so that countries and peoples around the world, irrespective of developed and developing ones, no longer become prey to depletion of biodiversity and continued natural disasters," he said.

The minister was addressing the opening session of the Training Workshop on Implementation of Montreal Protocol in Bangladesh at the IDB Bhaban in the city.

Organised by the Department of Environment, the function was also addressed by State Minister for Environment and Forest Jafrul Islam Chowdhury, Director General

of the Department of Environment and Forest Minister Shajahan Siraj yesterday called on the international community to take effective steps to stem environmental degradation for protecting biodiversity and preventing natural disasters.

Holding the industrialised world principally responsible for the vital threat to biodiversity, Shajahan Siraj said: "Bangladesh, although having an insignificant role in the process, has been severely affected by such global environmental disasters through becoming prey to recurrent floods, cyclones, tornadoes and draughts."

Control of the ozone depleting substances in line with the protocol began in the country in 1999, he said, adding the ozone cell of the Department of Environment implemented the aerosol sector phase-out project recently.

About 60 per cent of the substances would be reduced from the current year and for the reduction of the rest 40 per cent the government has prepared the Refrigeration Management Plan (RMP), he said.

Bird & star fair begins in Barguna on March 26

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A day-long bird and star fair will be organised jointly by Bangladesh Bird Club and Bangladesh Astronomical Association at Amali Degree College in Barguna on March 26.

The college administration will host the fair as part of the Independence Day celebrations.

The main attraction of the day is photography exhibition and slide show by ornithologist Enam UL Haque and exhibition of bird books, journals and posters of planets and galaxies.



A procession was brought out in the city yesterday on the occasion of holy Ashura.

PHOTO STAR

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On completion of this project, the patients will be able to undergo laparoscopic surgery at a minimum cost.

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