# METROPOLITAN

## Climate change may put ecosystem at risk

#### World Bank study on Bangladesh says

BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh may put its ecosystem depletion of organic carbon from and bio-diversity at the greatest the topsoil threatening the en-

World Bank study on Bangladesh: diversity loss and lower agro-Climate Change and Sustainable ecological productivity, the study Development.

The study report of July, 2001 pointed out several key risks to ecosystems and bio-diversity to be caused by the combination of high adaptation measures.

The risks include low flow in lar. dry season resulting in further

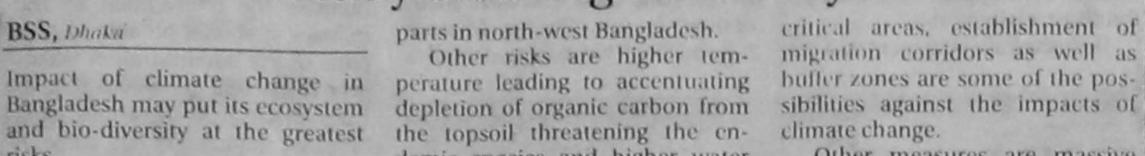
vesterday.

Other risks are higher temdemic species and higher water "The management of ecosys- temperature that may change

parts in north-west Bangladesh.

To protect the threatened ecosystem and bio-diversity, the study has suggested various measures including general activities to sensitivity to climate changes and protect the ecosystems as a whole low possibility for anticipatory and the targeted activities to save the threatened species in particu-

Introduction of integrated ecosalinity of the Sunderbans, lower system planning, management of groundwater tables and river in- mangrove ecosystems in the Sunflows, substantial drought and darbans, management of prodesertification in some sensitive tected areas and 14 ecologically



Other measures are massive afforestation along the coastal tem in Bangladesh exists only as a water conditions. Increased stress green belts and strengthening concept and the institutions in- on ecosystems will reduce their various studies on risks from clivolved in handling this vital sector resilience to changes or climate mate change to endemic species lack the needed capacity," says a variability in terms of the bio- and ecosystems in Bangladesh, the study said.

"Introduction of integrated ecosystem planning and management will reduce institutional fragmentation and focus on protecting a variety of species and natural systems together with their users," observes the study Protection of the Sunderbans is a must, it added.

### Sumangal Mohathero passes away

BSS, Dhaka

Sumangal Mohathero, a leading Buddhist Monk and President of International Meditation Centre for Buddhist Brotherhood died of a cardiac arrest in the city on Friday night at the age 67, family sources said.

known as Pranodip Barua, was a freedom fighter and an artiste of Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra during the liberation war in 1971.

He was also the presidium member of Bangladesh Hindu Christian Oikya Bouddha Parishad.

Son of late Phani Bhusan Barua, a noted lawyer and former member of the then Pakistan Constituent Assembly, Pranodip left behind five brothers and three

His body was taken to Chittagong for cremation.



Visitors admire a dress at a boutique exhibition that began at Drik Gallery in the city yesterday. The exhibition will continue till June 4.

### Adjust tuition fees to allow poor students

Minister urges pvt universities

Education Minister Dr Osman Farruk vesterday urged the management of the private universities to adjust their tuition fees to allow poor and deserving students to Sumangal Mohathero, better afford to pursue higher education in the institutions.

Addressing a freshers' reception of the East West University here, he said more facilities for the wards of the middle income group parents should be created to dispel the notion that the private universities are "the rich men's

The minister hoped that philanthropists would come forward to set up more excellent private universities, to supplement the services of the public universities. Founder Vice Chancellor of the Dr Mohammad

Farashuddin and some new students spoke at the function at the National Museum Auditorium. Vice Chancellor Dr Monwarul Islam presided.

Speaking as the chief guest, he said the BNP government in 1991 materialised the concept of private universities with a spirit that there would be no conflict but harmony between the private and the public universities.

Dr Farruk said it is true that investment in the educational institutions will not give any quick return, but one should not forget that society would be immensely benefited through this as well.

The minister said now a days the universities are no more regarded as mere seats of higher education and research works.

#### Master plans for 3 NARS instts reviewed

BSS, Dhaka

The governing body of Bangladesh Agriculture Research Council (BARC) at a meeting yesterday reviewed the five-year master plans of three research institutes under National Agricultural Research System (NARS).

Sugarcane Research Institute, Fisheries Research Institute and Tea Research Institute under NARS prepared the master plans for conducting research in their respective fields.

The latest position about approval of amendments to BARC service rule was also discussed.

### Kader Siddiqui proposes greater alliance led by Dr Kamal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

President of Bangladesh Krishak Sramik Janata League (BKSJL) Bangabir Kader Siddiqui has movement against the misrule of the BNP-led coalition government.

He said people of the country are now hostage to black money. corruption, insecurity and widespread violence.

Kader Siddiqui was speaking at a press conference organised by his party at the National Press Club in the city yesterday.

He said the present government has failed to provide security to the public although it was their election-pledge to the country-

Kader Siddiqui said the country needs an honest leadership under which it can march ahead towards the path of peace and progress. Criticising the Awami League

for boycotting parliament, he said throwing. people voted them to go to the Jatiya Sangsad to place their demands in the House.

recent call made by Dr. Kamal Hossain, president of Gano Forum, to save democracy by curbing crime and violence.

He proposed a greater alliance called upon the people to launch a under the leadership of Gano Forum chief to launch a united movement.

Terming Dr. Kamal Hossain as the symbol of honesty, the BKSJL chief said the nation needs a leader like him to uphold the country's image.

Replying to a question he said Bangladesh was never a communal country and criticised them who tried to establish a bad image of the country before the world community.

Advocate Bazlur Rahman, general secretary of the party, read out a declaration in the press confer-

It expressed concern over the increasing repression on women including rape, killing and acid-

The declaration urged the members of the civil society for raising their voice against all social In this context, Kader Siddiqui vices and political hypocrisy of the



President of Bangladesh Krishak Sramik Janata League Kader Siddiqui speaking at a press conference at the National Press Club in the city yesterday.

DIRECTOR **Social Communication** 

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Deputy Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Abdul Hamid speaking

at a press conference at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban in the city

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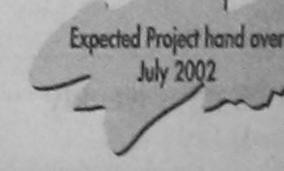
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