

Brick kiln owners asked to abide by environmental laws

BSS, Dhaka
Environment and Forest Minister Shajahan Siraj yesterday said all brick kilns must abide by environmental laws and have environmental certificate and licence from deputy commissioners to run their businesses.

Speaking at a meeting with brick kiln owners at Ashulia, he said small and sporadic problems eventually cause major hazards particularly as far as environment was concerned.

"The environment of the country will become hostile for future generation if these problems cannot be removed," he said.

Additional Deputy Commissioner of Dhaka M Harun-Ur Rashid presided over the meeting.

State Minister for Environment and Forest Jafarul Islam Chowdhury, local MP Dr. Dewan Mohammad Salauddin, Director General of Environment Directorate Hedayatul Islam Chowdhury, President of Brick Kiln Owners' Association Afaz Uddin and local representative of Brick kiln owners M A Jabbar spoke on the occasion.

The minister urged the brick kiln owners to produce environment-friendly concrete block brick to save the country from pollution.

A seven-member committee was formed at the meeting to recommend measures for brick kilns in Ashulia area. Dr. Dewan Mohammad Salauddin MP was made convener of the committee.



Founder and Chairperson of BRAC Fazle Hasan Abed (2nd from left) discussed the BRAC-Afghanistan programme with Afghan Minister for Rural Rehabilitation and Development Mohammad Hanif Atmar (right) in Kabul recently. Adviser of BRAC Faruq Ahmed Chowdhury was also present at the meeting.

Abed visits BRAC projects in Afghanistan

Founder and Chairperson of BRAC Fazle Hasan Abed had meetings with the Minister for Rural Rehabilitation and Development Mohammad Hanif Atmar, Education Minister Yonus Kanuni and Finance Minister Dr Ashraf Gani Ahmedzai of Afghanistan during his recent visit to Afghanistan, says a press release.

Abed discussed with them details of BRAC programmes in Afghanistan and the progress made so far. He said that Bangladesh had the similar experience 30 years ago when BRAC was born and he thought that it should share its long experience with the rehabilitation and development efforts of Afghanistan.

The Afghan ministers greatly appreciated the initiative taken by the Bangladeshi organisation and pledged all support from the Afghan authorities.

The BRAC chairperson also had separate and joint meetings with the Afghanistan heads of UN Agencies, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the European Union and other donor agencies.

He also visited the on-going BRAC programmes in Kabul, the provinces of Parwan and Balkh, and Mazar-e-Sharif in the northern region.

Registered in May this year, BRAC-Afghanistan has already set up eight offices with 52 employees, including 44 Afghans, and started livelihood programme with credit for the poor, eleven primary schools for girls and two health clinics in Parwan and Balkh.

During the visit, Abed was accompanied by Faruq Ahmed Chowdhury, adviser of BRAC.

NU mulls changes in exam system

MUSTAK HOSSAIN

The National University (NU) is considering to allow those who have failed in one subject in master's final examination to reappear only for the same, an high official of the university said.

A decision to this effect would pave the way for several thousand students who failed in one subject to have their master's degree.

According to existing system, the failed students have to sit for all the six papers.

"We are considering to put forward a proposal to the Academic Council for allowing the examinees who have failed in one subject in the master's degree examination", NU Vice Chancellor Abdul Momin Chowdhury told The Daily Star.

Chowdhury said he was convinced about the idea since such provision was made for honours examinees last year.

He said the proposal would be placed at the next meeting of the academic council.

"The present system for reappearing in all papers is loss of money, energy and time," said one guardian.

About 10,000 examinees of master's final examination of 1999 under the NU could not come out successfully. Most of them failed

in 50-mark comprehensive test, sources said.

The holding of master's final examination under the university was delayed due to political unrest and election last year. The examination started on November 4 last year and ended in January this year.

The publication of result was also delayed by several months and the result of Management Department was published on October 12.

Many students said the university should make special arrangement to appear at the next examination scheduled for November 12 as the deadline for submitting the form has already expired.

"If the university does not allow us, we will never be able to have our master's degree," said one examinee who failed in one paper at the examination.

SC lawyers to boycott court on Oct 26

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Bangladesh Supreme Court Bar Association (BSCBA) will boycott all courts of the High Court Division on October 26 to press home 6-point demand of the lawyers, says a press release.

This was decided at a meeting of the executive committee of the BSCBA yesterday with President Ojayer Faruk in the chair.

The meeting expressed its solidarity with lawyers' demand and decided to send a copy of the resolution of the meeting to the Chief Justice.

Six get Lifetime Achievement Award in Ctg

CU CORRESPONDENT

Six persons were awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award 2002 at a function in the port city on Tuesday night.

Achievement, a socio-cultural organisation, gave the award for their outstanding contributions in the fields of journalism, social service, publication, sports, music and drama.

The recipients are Mohammad Khaled, editor of Azadi, for journalism, Bazul Sattar for social service, Mohammad Shafi for publication, Abu Taher Putu (posthumously) for sports, Alok Kumar Dutta for drama and Shefali Ghosh for music.

Amir Humayun Mahmud Chowdhury, president of Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI), Prof Dr Mohammad Moniruzzaman of Chittagong University, Swapon Das Gupta, first secretary of the Indian High Commission in Chittagong, Fazlur Rahman Arju, sports organiser and Obaidul Haq, chairman of Achievement gave away the crests.



Danish Ambassador Niels Severin Munk visited UCEP-Dhaka Technical school for the underprivileged working children in the city yesterday.



A voluntary blood donation programme was held at the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology recently on the occasion of Rag '02. The ORCA Blood for Life in association with the Sandhani Dhaka Medical College unit organised the event.



A milad mahfil was held at the Head Office of Uttara Bank Limited in the city recently on the occasion of seventh death anniversary of Alhaj Jahurul Islam, a renowned industrialist and one of the sponsors of the bank.

Trauma centres to be set up along highways

BSS, Dhaka

The government will set up some trauma centres along the highways across the country to provide quick treatment to the victims of road accidents.

The injured would get primary treatment in the centres immediately after the accident and later they would be treated as required, Health Minister Khondoker Mosharrar Hossain said.

The minister was said this while inaugurating the National Conference of Bangladesh Association of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and scientific session at a city hotel.

Presided over by Association President Prof. Mohammad Kamrul Islam, the inaugural function was also addressed by Health Secretary Muhammad Fazlur Rahman, Vice-Chancellor of BSMMU Prof. M. A. Hadi, Secretary General of Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA) Dr. A Z M Zahed Hossain.

Former ADB chief Mitsuo Sato dies

BSS, Dhaka

Mitsuo Sato, former president of Asian Development Bank (ADB), died of a cardiac arrest in Tokyo on Sunday at the age of 69.

Sato served as ADB's president from 1993 to 1999, steering the Bank through one of Asia's most challenging periods, following the onset of the Asian financial crisis in 1997.

During his tenure, ADB expanded its mandate significantly from being a project-financier to a broad-based development finance institution.

As ADB President, Sato had visited Bangladesh in August 1997. Sato is survived by his wife and two sons.

WEATHER TODAY

Moderate rain likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at a few places over Khulna, Barisal and Chittagong divisions and weather may remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country during the next 12 hours till 6pm today.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country. Met Offices said.

Yesterday's highest temperature of 33.5 degree Celsius was recorded at Sylhet and the lowest of 18.5 degree at Srirangol.

The sun sets in the capital at 5:25pm today and rises at 6:01am tomorrow.

The highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

Table with 3 columns: City/Town, Temperature in Celsius (Max, Min), Humidity in percentage (Morning, Evening). Rows include Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal, Sylhet, Cox's Bazar.

Advertisement for 'Daka' (ঢাকা) featuring a logo and text about a book or publication. Includes a table with names and details.

Advertisement for the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD Road Division, Tangail. Includes 'Corrigendum Notice No. 2 (two)' and contact information.

Advertisement for Eastern Refinery Limited (ERL), North Patenga, PO Box-35. Includes contact information and a 'Local Tender Notice (1st Re-Tender)'.

DHAKA TODAY

Art exhibition
The inaugural ceremony of the 3rd Group Art Exhibition of Young Artists of Bangladesh will be held. Rafiqun Nabi, an eminent artist will inaugurate. Venue: The Russian Cultural Centre, Dhanmondi. Time: 5:30pm. The exhibition will remain open till October 31 from 4.00pm to 8.00pm daily.

UN seminar
The Department of Peace and Conflict Studies of Dhaka University organises a seminar in observance of the United Nations Day 2002 with State Minister for Foreign Affairs Reaz Rahman as chief guest. Venue: The conference room of the Business Studies Faculty of the university. Time: 10.00am.

Film show
Zahir Raihan Film Society will screen two films titled 'At home among strangers' and 'The Barber of Siberia' directed by Nikita Mikhalkov on the occasion of his 57th birth anniversary. Venue: The Russian Cultural Centre, Dhanmondi. Time: 5.00pm and 6.30pm respectively.

SASC programme
A programme on 'Students' Anti-tobacco Campaign', organised by the Students Anti Smoking Committee (SASC), will be held. The programme includes distribution of an anti-tobacco book among the students apart from staging an anti-tobacco drama titled 'Uplabdh'ee'. Venue: Dhaka Residential Model School and College, Mohammadpur. Time: 10.00am.

ESDO programme
The inaugural ceremony of the programme titled 'Keep our city clean', organised by the Environment and Social Development Organisation (ESDO) in association with the British Council, will be held with Environment and Forest Minister Shajahan Siraj as chief guest. Venue: Dhanmondi Lake by Road-8/A. Time: 9.30am.

Reception
The Cine Drama and Cultural Forum of Stamford University, Bangladesh, organises a freshers' reception ceremony with Food Minister Abdullah Al Noman as chief guest. Venue: Lagoon Convention Centre, Rifles Square, Dhanmondi. Time: 11.00am.

Campus seminar
A seminar on the 'Present and future of coaching in the education system of Bangladesh', organised by the University Campus Journal, will be held with State Minister for Education ANM Ehsanul Haque Miron as chief guest. Venue: Conference room of the campus journal, 33 Tophkhana Road, Time: 10.00am.

UN Symposium
The United Nations Association of Bangladesh (UNAB) will hold a symposium on the occasion of the United Nations Day with Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan as chief guest. Venue: Dhaka Medical College Hospital for autopsy.

French film show
The Alliance Francaise will screen a film titled 'Le Bossu' directed by Andre Hunebelle. Venue: Alliance Francaise auditorium, Dhanmondi. Time: 6.00pm.

DUPDAA reunion
The third reunion and annual general meeting of Dhaka University Political Science Department Alumni Association (DUPDAA) will be held. Venue: Teachers Students Centre auditorium. Time: 9.30am.

Large advertisement for 'বিআইডব্লিউটিসি' (BIAI DUBLIUTISI) featuring a logo, text about services, and a table of bus routes and times.