

Tipaimukh dam to destroy ecology in Meghna basin

Speakers say at Bapa roundtable in Sylhet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

India, being an upper riparian country, cannot unilaterally withdraw water from the common rivers and any such move should be effectively dealt with at home and abroad, speakers said at a roundtable in Sylhet city yesterday.

Implementation of a gigantic project like Tipaimukh dam that will cause withdrawal of huge water in the Barak river near the common borders of north-eastern Indian states of Manipur, Mizoram and Assam, the entire Meghna basin in the downstream will face desertification, they said.

Bangladesh Paribesh Andolan (Bapa) with the assistance of Sylhet

Paribesh Andolan (Syapa) organised the roundtable on 'Rivers in Sylhet and Tipaimukh bundh' at a city hotel.

The speakers called upon all concerned to resist at any cost the implementation of the dam that would mean another Farakka, seriously affecting livelihood in the north-eastern regions in Bangladesh.

They said the Indian government is going ahead with the implementation of the project ignoring protests even in Manipur state where devastating effect of the project is feared.

"We are heading towards a war on water in near future. Major portion of our water comes from

outside the country. Water from rivers in India, Nepal, Bhutan, and Tibet flow through Bangladesh," Bapa founder chief AMA Muhit said as chief guest.

"Over the issue, we have to coordinate with people on movement in Manipur. Issues like flood control, forestry, preparedness for disaster etc can be discussed on joint forums with the neighbouring countries like India, Nepal and Bhutan."

Decisions taken through working jointly would be more effective, he said.

Forty-two rivers on the Meghna basin including 21 in greater Sylhet region have already lost 80 per cent of their navigability while the region's fishery, bio-diversity and agriculture are at a stake due to the critical situation, the speakers said at the roundtable.

Bapa Secretary General Dr Md Abdul Matin, also Coordinator of the National Rivers Saving Movement, read out the keynote paper at the roundtable chaired by Vice Chancellor of Sylhet International University Prof Sadruddin Ahmed Chowdhury.

Prof Abdul Awal Biswas and Dr Akhtarul Islam Chowdhury of Shahjalal University of Science and

Technology, AFIM Fokhrul Islam, executive engineer of Water Development Board, Abdul Karim Kim, secretary of Sylhet Paribesh Andolan, Dr Zillul Haque, secretary of Moulvibazar Paribesh Andolan, Engineer Padmasen Sinha, chief of Manipuri Kalyan Samity, advocate Bedananda Bhattacharya, advocate Zakir Ahmed and journalist Al-Azad also spoke on the occasion.

Located at Tipaimukh in Churachand district of Manipur, the project area is close to the borders of Assam and Mizoram states and about 100 km off the Bangladesh border. Work on the four-year project is scheduled to start from 2008 at a cost of 6,000 crore rupees.

The project poses threat of ecology disaster and eviction of a large number of people, especially aborigines in the surrounding areas. Amid strong protests from environmentalist groups in the north-eastern Indian states of Manipur, Assam and Mizoram, the authorities laid the foundation of the mega project last year.

The Indian authorities initiated the barrage project for a 1500 MW electricity plant a decade ago, but could not go ahead with its implementation in the face of protests.



Harijan children staging a drama at the fair at Bijoy Ullash ground in Kushtia yesterday.

'Ensure rights of Harijan children'

Discussion, fair held in Kushtia

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

A daylong Harijan Children Rights Fair and a discussion meeting were held in Kushtia yesterday.

FAIR, a local NGO, working for rights of Harijan people, organised the programmes with assistance from Dhaka based NGO Manusher Jonnyo.

The programme was held at Bijoy Ullash ground of Kushtia municipality, president of Harijan Children Right Forum Aduri Rani, an 8-year old Harijan girl.

Prof Dr. Mohammad Zafar Iqbal of Shajalal Science and Technology University, Sylhet, was present as chief discussant.

Dr. Meghna Guho Thakurta, Executive Director of Research Initiative in Bangladesh (RIB) and Dr Rashid Askari, columnist and professor at Islamic University and Kushtia municipality chairman

Anwar Ali took part in discussion.

A large number of Harijan children along with their parents from different areas of Kushtia attended the fair.

According to NGO sources, at least 10,000 Harijan people live in the district but they are deprived of social rights.

Harijan children are not allowed in all educational institutions.

The discussants urged the government to take initiatives to

allow Harijan children in all schools and to ensure the people all social rights.

The discussants included former government official and team leader of Harijan Advocacy Group Nazrul Islam, FAIR chairman Tofazzel Hossain and its director Dewan Aktharuzzaman also addressed.

Several local NGOs also set up stalls in the fair to create awareness about rights of Harijan children.

Contractor sent to jail for 'cheating'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Syed Muhammad Yunus, a millionaire contractor arrested in some cheating cases, was sent to jail yesterday.

Yunus was wanted for long, police said.

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested him from a flat in Purana Palatan in Dhaka on October 25 and handed him over to Barisal RAB-8 on Friday. He was handed over to Barisal Kotwali police on the same day after primary interrogation.

Police produced him before Sadar upazila magistrate court yesterday in a cheating case lodged by Jahangir Hossain, owner of a press.

Sub-inspector Shahabuddin, investigation officer (IO) of the case, sought 10 days' remand. Hearing on remand will be held today.

In his complaint lodged last month, Jahangir alleged that Yunus did not pay Tk 4 lakh printing bills of a hospital owned by him.

IO Shahabuddin said Yunus and his wife, a BNP leader, also face a case for taking Tk 27 crore loan against a fixed deposit of Tk 3 crore by using political influence.

He was granted bails in the case by higher court.

The anti-corruption task force is investigating all the cases, the IO said. Yunus also faces charges for swindling money from government departments, the IO said.

He was arrested earlier in mid-September in Dhaka but was released.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Department of Immigration & Passports, Passport Bhaban
E-7, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207

Invitation for Tenders

01.	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
02.	Agency	Department of Immigration & Passports.
03.	Procuring entity name	Director General, Department of Immigration & Passports, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.
04.	Procuring entity district	Dhaka, Bangladesh.
05.	Tender for	Appointment of C&F Agent.
06.	Invitation reference No.	File No. Estt. 7/8/2007 (Part-3).
07.	Publication date of tender	25-10-2007
08.	Procurement method	Open tender.
09.	Budget and source of funds	Government of Bangladesh.
10.	Tender No.	2/2007.
11.	Last date of selling tender document	15/11/2007.
12.	Tender closing date & time	21/11/2007, 12.00 o'clock (at midday).
13.	Tender opening date, time & place	21-11-2007, 2.00pm, Conference Room (Room No: 602), Head Office, Department of Immigration & Passports, Passport Bhaban, E-7, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207.
14.	Designation and address of officer for: a) Selling tender document b) Receiving tender document c) Opening tender document	a) Assistant Accounts Officer, Room No-803, 7 th Floor, Passport Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka. b) Deputy Director (Admin) (Contract Officer), Room No-603, 5 th Floor, Passport Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka. c) Tender Committee, Room No-602, 5 th Floor, Passport Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka. Tel. 8159496, Fax: 9123399.
15.	Date, time & place of tender meeting	Conference Room (Room No. 602), Passport Bhaban, E-7, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207.
16.	Eligibility of tenderer	Nationally reputed C&F agent having valid licence and 5 (five) years of experience in clearing security goods e.g. passports, currency notes, stamps etc.
17.	Brief description of services	a) Clearing of passport booklets (security document of the govt of Bangladesh) from the ICD, Kamalapur, Dhaka. b) Unloading & loading. c) Carrying by trucks/covered vans to the Passport Bhaban. d) Lifting through the staircase of the Passport Bhaban godown at 8 th floor of Passport Bhaban, storing of the boxes/ cartons in the rack serially. e) Clearing 300 wooden boxes containing 3,00,000 passports from Zia International Airport, carried up to Passport Bhaban and storing in the godown in the 8 th floor in the same manner.
18.	Description of related services	Arrangement of special police force while clearing & forwarding & storing of passport booklets.
19.	Volume of works	1982 boxes/cartons (quantity may vary) containing passports from ICD Kamalapur, Dhaka to Passport Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka on several occasions as and when the consignment reach there. Partial consignment of 3,00,000 (three hundred thousand) passports i.e. 300 boxes) will be cleared from Zia International Airport, Dhaka and carried to the godown of Passport Bhaban.
20.	Destination	Department of Immigration and Passports, Passport Bhaban, E-7, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207.
21.	Probably weight and size	Gross weight about 42kg.
22.	Price of tender documents	Taka 400 (four hundred) in cash (non-refundable).
23.	Amount of tender security money	Taka 10,000 (ten thousand).
24.	Supply time in days	As and when consignment reaches at the ICD Kamalapur, Dhaka.
25.	Designation of contract officer	Deputy Director (Admin) for Director General.
26.	Name, designation and address of official inviting tender	Director General, Department of Immigration and Passports, Passport Bhaban, E-7, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207, Tel: 00-88-02-8159878, Fax: 00-88-02-9123399.
27.	Contact details of official inviting tender	Tel. 8159496, Fax: 9123399.
28.	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.	

Md. Rafiuddin Ahmed
Deputy Director (Admin)
For Director General

Overcoming monga

Lac farming under RIB makes 800 families solvent in Nilphamari

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

Several hundred enthusiastic people, both male and female, assembled at Horimondir Para village of Laxmichhap union in Sadar upazila yesterday to share their experience of overcoming poverty.

They had done 'mass research' (or group discussion) to combat monga and found initiatives like lac cultivation to be effective, they said at a meeting on the premises of the Horimondir temple.

Research Initiatives Bangladesh (RIB) supported by local organisations 'Loksamaj Gabeshana Foundation' and 'Grameen Atwa Unnayan Sangstha' arranged the meeting. A three-day fair was also opened on the occasion.

There were 14 stalls including lac processing factory, Kazoli Model School, Kazoli Education Centre, BRI-33 paddy cultivation stall, drum seeder process at the fair.

Lac, a natural resin produced by insect Laccifer lacca, a parasite of a particular host tree, is widely used in industry like food processing, leather, textile, pharmaceuticals and perfume.

The concept of 'mass research' bears significance as finding out the ways for better living through group discussion contributes to the development of the country as a whole. Nilphamari Deputy Commissioner of Khandokar Moklesur Rahman said in his speech as the chief guest.

Mass research, which sharpens our brain by removing the rust from it, is a new way to alleviate poverty, said Anisur Rahman, professor of economics of Dhaka University.

"Lac farming had been proved to be effective to combat monga. The less advantaged people should detect their own problems and take initiative for

its solution. Mass research helps to grow such attitude," RIB Chairman Dr Shamsul Bari said.

Lac cultivation has helped over 800 families in the district to get rid of monga, lac cultivation researcher Motiur Rahman said at the meeting presided over by local union parishad Chairman Shyam Charan Roy.

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Samata, a leading right based organisation working to establish the right of the landless people is looking for an energetic, dynamic and self driven Director to lead the HRM.

The candidate should be MBA having 5 years experience on HRM related field at a leading organization having excellent computer skill and sound knowledge in preparing reports both in English and Bangla. The position requires intensive field visit and work with a large staff team in hard and difficult condition.

The position carries an attractive salary package alongwith other admissible benefit. The interested candidates are requested to apply with detail curriculum vitae, one recent photograph and non related reference by November 06, 2007. Marking the job position on top either at Samata, 9/5, Iqbal Road, Block- A, Mohammadpur, Dhaka 1217 or samata@citecho.net. Only the short listed candidates will be contacted for test and interview.

Career Opportunity

A 100% foreign owned company located in Dhaka Export Processing Zone (DEPZ), Ganakbari, Savar, Dhaka, is looking for the following positions for appointment.

1. Lab. Technician : 1 position

Requirements: B.Sc. Or Diploma Engineer with 3-5 years experiences in Textiles or Garments quality Lab testing in a renowned Laboratory or Factory. Preference will be given to those who have actual experience in working in a laboratory or lab testing company. Good communication skills in English and computer literacy is a must.

2. Production Control Officer: 4 positions

Requirements: Graduate with woven garments manufacturing background from a recognized Institute. 2-3 years' experience in the relevant field in a renowned garment industry, capable to make production report, production planning sheets etc. Good communication skills in English and computer literacy is essential. Graduates from BIFT and any other recognized Textile/Garments manufacturing Institute will be given preference.

Benefit packages: Salary and benefit packages will be negotiable for all the positions which may be competitive for the deserving candidates. All facilities will be provided as per company policy.

Interested candidates are requested to send their detailed CV with two copy coloured photograph to the following address before 5th November, 2007.

The General Manager, Redpoint Jackets Ltd. Plot # 106-108, DEPZ (Old), Ganakbari, Ashulia, Dhaka.

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Foreign buying office has immediate vacancies for the following positions.

1. Merchandise Manager(1), Merchandisers & Trainee Merchandisers
2. Quality Control Manager(1) & Quality Controllers
3. Receptionist

Interested candidates are requested to send a complete CV with 02 copies of photographs to Box No-A-150, C/O: THE DAILY STAR, 19 Karwan Bazar, Dhaka. within 10 Nov. 2007.

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SL No.	Name of the Post	Required Qualifications & Experiences
1	Floor In-charge	Minimum 5/7 years Experience in a big garment industry. Excellent technical knowledge in garments sewing. Minimum Graduate & capable to handle the production floor independently. Must be fluent in English & should have Computer knowledge.
2	Quality Assurance Executive	Minimum 5 years experience in a big Woven garment industry. Minimum HSC & excellent technical knowledge on casual wears. Capable to control quality department under the guidance of the Quality Assurance Manager independently. Must be fluent in English & should have Computer knowledge.
3	Manager Cutting Section	Minimum 7/8 years experience in a big garment industry as Cutting Section Manager. Minimum Graduate & excellent technical knowledge on CAD & CAM. Must be fluent in English & must have Computer knowledge.
4	Industrial Engineer	Minimum 5/7 years experience in similar position. Industrial Engineer or Diploma Degree in garment manufacturing. Effective communication in Bangla & English. Must have Computer knowledge. Knowledge of operation Back down, determination of standard time for any product.
5	Production Executive	Minimum Graduate. Must have garments sewing technical knowledge. Experienced in Line Layout & Line Feeding. Should have 3/4 years experience in a similar position. Capable in controlling Line Leaders & Supervisors. Accountable for productivity and quality of the output. Should have Computer knowledge.
6	Operator Trainer	Minimum HSC. Must have practical experience in operating sewing machines. Must have good knowledge on all process of garment manufacturing. Must possess a pleasing personality. Should have Computer knowledge.
7	Cutting Executive	Minimum 5/7 years experience in a big garment industry as Cutting Section. Minimum Graduate & excellent technical knowledge on CAD & CAM. Must be fluent in English & must have Computer knowledge.
8	CAD / Sampling Manager	Minimum Graduate- major in Humanities & Commerce. 5/7 years experience as a sampling & CAD Manager in a garment factory. Technical sewing skills are essential. Must have the ability to identify quality problems in the garment. Fluent in English. Computer skills are essential - specially Excel & E-mail.
9	CAD / Sampling Executive	Minimum Graduate- major in Humanities & Commerce. 5/7 years experience as a CAD & Sampling Executive in a garment factory. Technical sewing skills are essential. Must have the ability to identify quality problems in the garment. Fluent in English. Computer skills are essential - specially Excel & E-mail.
10	Sample Operator	Minimum 3 years experience in similar position.
11	Pattern Maker	Minimum 7/8 years experience as a Pattern Maker in a garment factory. Excellent knowledge in CAD / CAM system. Fluent in English & must have Computer knowledge- specially Excel & E-mail.
12	Sewing Supervisor	Minimum SSC & over 5 years experience as a Supervisor (Denim & Casual Bottom) in a garment factory.
13	Finishing Executive	Minimum 5/7 years experience as a Finishing Executive/ Supervisor in a garment factory. Minimum Graduate & capable in handling the Finishing Department independently. Must be fluent in English & Computer knowledge is must.
14	Work Study Executive	Must hold a Garment Technology Degree/ Industrial Engineering/ Production Engineering Degree from a reputed university. Minimum 5 years experience in the garment industry, specifically in the breakdown of all production operations and the determination of standard assembly minutes for any type of garment. Fluency in English. Must have Computer knowledge- specially Excel & E-mail.
15	Fabric Inspector	Minimum 5 years experience in Woven Fabric inspection, specially Denim & Twill Fabrics. Excellent knowledge of making Shade Bands & preparing Shrinkage reports. Minimum HSC & must have Computer knowledge.

If you feel that you are the right person who we are looking for, please contact directly (Walk in interview) within ten days with your application in English, CV, recent passport size photograph, educational & experience certificates, to the following address:
General Manager, Universal Jeans Ltd. Plot # 9-11, Sector # 6/A, EPZ, Chittagong.