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JATIYA HAOR PARISHAD FORMED
Preserve bio-diversity, huge resources of Haors
Speakers urge govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a discussion yesterday urged the government to take necessary initiatives to preserve bio-diversity and enormous resources of Haor areas in the country.

At the discussion organised by Paribesh Bachao Andolon (Save the Environment Movement) at the National Press Club in the city, a 101-member national body titled as 'Jatiya Haor Parishad' comprising different eminent citizens from the Haor areas was announced.

Editor of The Daily Ittefaq Rahat Khan, convener of the organisation, urged the government to work with new vision for the development of Haor areas by preserving the existing resources and enhancing their potentials.

"The resources and potentials of Haor areas are vast and all we have to do is to plan and form policies to resolve the existing problems like education and health in those areas," said Rahat.

About forming the national body for the development of

Haors, he said it would be a Dhaka-based organisation which will have offices in upazilas having Haors to identify the problems and resolve them locally and centrally.

"The organisation hopes to monitor the development activities in the Haor region and make recommendations to the policy makers," he added.

Rahat said if the problem of education and employment could be resolved, the people and the areas would be the most advanced one.

Kamal Pasha Chowdhury, member-secretary of the

organisation, spoke about the struggles of one and a half crore Haor inhabitants who cope with everyday hazard of nature.

"The vast Haor areas have the huge potentials in terms of meeting the domestic need of rice and fish. Besides, these areas belting seven districts of Bangladesh are very rich in culture, literature and tradition," he said with a sense of profound pride.

Noted actor Jhuna Chowdhury was made the joint convener while Atik Rahman Khan the joint secretary of the organisation.

Ekushey Book Fair in Khulna begins today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

The 23-day 'Ekushey Book Fair' begins on the Khulna Divisional Government Public Library premises at Boyra in the city today.

City Mayor Talukder Abdul Khaleque will inaugurate the fair at 4:00pm.

Khulna Sahitya Sangsad and Khulna Divisional Govt Public Library are jointly organising the fair sponsored by Grameenphone.

The fair will continue till February 28 from 10:00am to 9:00pm everyday.

Organisers expect to get over Tk 45 lakh from sale of books at 46 stalls this year, Tk 10 lakh more than previous year's fair.

IIUC assured of Saudi support

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Saudi Ambassador Dr Abdullah Bin Naser Al-Busairi yesterday assured the International Islamic University, Chittagong (IIUC) of his government's continued support for overall development of the institution.

The Saudi envoy said this while addressing as the chief guest a reception ceremony organised in his honour on the permanent campus of the university at Kumira in Sitakunda.

He said Islam is a religion of peace. But there are attempts to undermine it through wrong interpretation of Islam throughout the world, he added and called on all to remain alert to such activities.

The ambassador also expressed satisfaction over the last 14 years of achievement of the university.

Speaking on the occasion, IIUC Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Md Mahbub Ullah recalled the Saudi government's support and assistance in developing the infrastructure of the institution and stepping up academic activities.

IIUC Trust Secretary and Lawmaker Muhammad Shamsul Islam and Pro-VC Prof Dr Abu Bakar Rafeeq also spoke.

Saudi Embassy First Secretary Sayeed G Al Gamed, Military Attaché Brigadier Abdul Aziz Al-Dayel and Religious Attaché Ali Saleh Bamaga were also present at the ceremony.



মুশা ত্রিকমতো মরুক আর না-ই মরুক, উল্টো আপনিই যে অজান্তে হয়ে যাচ্ছেন আপনার অ্যারোসলের বিষের শিকার।
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