

# Resolve trans-boundary water issues thru' talks

Speakers tell roundtable

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Trans-boundary water disputes in the region should be resolved through dialogues among the countries concerned, including Nepal, Bhutan, India, China and Bangladesh, speakers at a roundtable said yesterday.

They also said the Farakka Barrage in the Ganges has caused severe damage to the country's ecology and that India should compensate Bangladesh for the damage.

They also called on all to unite to protest the frequent withdrawal of water from international rivers by India, which is posing threat to the environment.

Bangladesh Centre for International Students organ-

ised the roundtable on 'Ecosystem aggression by India: Our duties' at the National Press Club in the city, with Prof Emajuddin Ahmed, former vice chancellor of Dhaka University, in the chair.

Former water secretary Mohammad Asafuddoula said there are some weaknesses in the Ganges Water Sharing Treaty, which should be reviewed.

He also called for forging national unity to realise compensation from India for the damage caused by the Farakka Barrage.

"We need to act boldly to realise our demands," he added.

Prof Dr Mahbubullah called for mobilising international support in addressing the issue of frequent with-

drawal of water by India, which posing a threat to the environment in the country.

Prof Emajuddin said the people should be informed about the environmental damage caused by the dams India has built in the international rivers.

"The people of the country are divided; they should unite and forge a movement to address the issue of environmental damage," he said.

He also suggested informing the international organisations working in Dhaka of the environmental damage caused by the Farakka barrage.

The roundtable was organised to mark the 33rd anniversary of the historical Long March of Maulana Bhashani against the Farakka barrage.

# More bodies condole death of Dr Wazed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

More political, socio-cultural, educational and rights organisations yesterday condole the death of Dr MA Wazed Miah, eminent nuclear scientist and husband of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

They prayed for peace and salvation of the departed soul and conveyed sympathy to bereaved family members.

Gono Forum presidium member Pankaj Bhattacharya on behalf of its president Dr Kamal Hossain expressed shock at the death of Dr Wazed and conveyed sympathy to members of the bereaved family. In a condolence message the Gono Forum leader termed Dr Wazed as a unique example of honesty and simplicity.

Bangladesh Human Rights Commission Chairman AKM Sadek and Secretary General Dr Saiful Islam Dilder condole the death of Dr Wazed and prayed for strength of the bereaved family members to bear the loss.

Bangabandhu Sangskritik Jote leaders Tarana Halim MP, Asaduzzaman Nur MP, Kabori Sarwar MP, singer Momtaz MP and other leaders of the jote expressed deep shock at his death and conveyed sympathy to member of the bereaved family.

Other organisations that condole the death of Dr Wazed Miah are Parliament Members Club, National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam University, Rangpur Zila Samity, Bangladesh Nagorik Sanghati Parishad, Bangabandhu Textile Engineers' Association, Bangladesh Export Oriented Garments Washing Industries Owners' Association, The Institution of Textile Engineering and Technologists, Rajshahi Divisional Development Forum, FEMA, Bangladesh Corrugated Carton and Accessories Manufacturers and Exporters Association.



Traders block the North South Road in old part of the city during a clash with the students of Jagannath University yesterday. (Story on Page 16)

# Foreign national among four found dead

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three people, including a foreign national, were killed in separate incidents while the body of an unidentified youth was found floating in a lake in the city.

Two of the victims were identified as Sajjadul Kabir, 40, a car driver and resident of North Ibrahimpur, and Sekander Ali, 55, a security guard. Two others could not be identified.

Gulshan police recovered the body of the unidentified foreign national at Road-94 in Gulshan-2 around 11:30pm on Sunday and sent it to Dhaka Medical College Morgue for autopsy.

Morgue sources said he was strangled with a cloth and there were several injury marks in his body.

The victim had curly hair and black complexion, Gulshan police said.

One of the other victim deceased were an unidentified foreign national age around 35, car driver Sajjadul Kabir, 40, resident of North Ibrahimpur and unidentified youth age around 22 in Uttara.

The body of Kabir was found on Chatbari embankment in Mirpur under Shah Ali Police Station around 9:00am yesterday.

The police sent the body to Dhaka Medical College Morgue for autopsy. Kabir, a rent-a-car driver, had remained missing since 5:30am on Sunday, said Montu Mia, a relative of Kabir.

Kabir went out of his house driving his car around 5:30am but did not return home.

Police suspect that killers might have taken away his car and cellphone after killing him.

Meanwhile, the police with the help of Dhaka City

Corporation Workers recovered the body of the unidentified youth floating in a lake at Sector-5 in Uttara and sent it to Dhaka Medical College Morgue for autopsy.

Uttara police suspect that the youth might have drowned in the lake as he did not know how to swim.

Meanwhile, the police recovered the body of Sekander Ali, 55, a security guard of Kohinoor Chemicals Ltd., at Mohakhali Wireless Gate in the city last night.

Police said they found the body lying on a road in the area.

The pockets of his pants and shirts were torn, police said, adding that he might have fallen victim to Agyan Party, a gang of muggers who drug people before robbing them.

The body was sent to Dhaka Medical College Morgue for autopsy.

# Dinajpur road crash kills 2

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

At least two people were killed and eight others, including two physicians of Thakurgaon Sadar Hospital, injured in a road accident at Birganj upazila yesterday.

The dead were identified as Md Shwapna, 35, son of Samsul Huda Bhuiyan, and Bilkis Banu, 25, wife of Shariful Islam both hailed from Thakurgaon Sadar upazila.

Birganj police quoting villagers said the accident occurred when an ambulance of Thakurgaon Sadar Hospital collided head-on with a Thakurgaon-bound passenger bus on Birganj-Dinajpur highway at Birganj Fishery More, leaving two people dead on the spot and eight passengers of the ambulance.

Police said the ambulance was going to Dinajpur Medical College Hospital (DJMCH) carrying patients and their attendants from Thakurgaon Sadar Hospital.



Horlicks carries out a programme titled "Horlicks School Activity 2009" at 100 schools in Dhaka and Chittagong recently.

# Horlicks school activity held

METRO DESK

Horlicks carried out a programme titled "Horlicks School Activity 2009" at 100 schools in Dhaka and Chittagong recently, says a press release.

The key message that was given through this activity was "Taking Horlicks everyday helps kids become taller, stronger and sharper. Drink two glasses of Horlicks everyday and see it by yourself."

The Horlicks team also demonstrated the easy way of making a glass of Horlicks with warm water and three spoonfuls of Horlicks. Horlicks nutritionist also talked about its nutritional benefits in detail in front of the children.

A quiz competition was also arranged for the children and prizes were distributed among the winners. Afterwards the children were served Horlicks and a branded class routine each.

# Support for Australian bushfires victims

METRO DESK

School children of Char Fasson in Bhola presented the Australian High Commissioner Dr Justin Lee with a cheque for almost Tk 40,000 on the weekend for Australian bushfires victims, says a press release.

Receiving the cheque the High Commissioner said, "I am deeply moved and grateful for this generous and kind gesture from children who themselves have so little to spare. There is a close bond between Char Fasson and Australia and we have helped each other on many occasions in the past."

Children making the donation are students of schools, which are built and operated with the assistance of Cooperation in Development (Co-ID), a local NGO, which receives support from the Australian community.

Australian citizen Fred

Hyde AM, 89, who helped to establish Co-ID, said the children wanted to help Australian children in their time of need.

The children's donation has been sent to the Australian Red Cross 2009 Victorian Bushfire Appeal.

While Fasson the High Commissioner also opened the Co-ID's newest school that will provide free education to more than 200 children from grades 1 to 5.

# BAF air defence exercise begins today

METRO DESK

A two-day air defence exercise titled "ADEX 2009-1" of Bangladesh Air Force will begin today in all Air Bases, says an ISPR press release.

The aim of this exercise is to assess and evaluate efficiency and capability of BAF air defence and identify the weaknesses. All types of BAF aircrafts, helicopters and Radar Squadrons of different Bases are participating in the exercise.



Australian High Commissioner Dr Justin Lee and Mustafa Kamal from Char Fasson upazila hoist the Bangladesh and Australian flags at the opening ceremony of a new school built by Co-ID, a local NGO, in Char Fasson, Bhola recently.

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# AL-BNP clash in Munshiganj: 12 injured

A CORRESPONDENT, Munshiganj

Twelve people were injured in a clash between two groups of activists of Awami League (AL) and BNP at Dighirpur under Tongibari upazila in Munshiganj yesterday.

Nuruddin Kholifa, 35, Babul Khan, 40, Didar, 32, Union Parishad Chairman Arif Halder, 37, Tipu, 35 and Nazir Halder, 55, among the injured, were treated in local hospitals.

Police said Olu Khan group of BNP snatched a cellphone of one Shahinur and confined him. Then Bhatu Haldar group of AL asked Didar of Olu group about Shahinur which later turned into clash.

The clash continued for about an hour, which creates panic among people.

Later, police brought the situation under control.

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