

Software can help increase 5 pc power production

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A German-Bangladesh expert consortium yesterday presented to the energy ministry a proposal for software solution that can help increase power production by five percent through improving plant management.

The consortium comprising Suprsons Ltd IFE Systems, Bremen University of Germany and Star Consultants and Engineers of Bangladesh demonstrated the software system that can increase power production without making any investment in fuel or hardware, says a press release.

The software can be applied to any power plant operated by gas and coal and it can be implemented immediately.

A local expert team will be developed to this end through training-on-the-job and transferring necessary technology and know-how to them, the release added.

C'wealth edn ministers' confce begins today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The 17th Conference of Commonwealth Education Ministers (17CCEM) will begin today in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia with the participation of education ministers, vice chancellors and senior officials from 53 countries.

A Bangladesh delegation led by Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid left Dhaka to attend the triennial conference -- the largest and most important meeting in the Commonwealth education calendar.

UGC Chairman Prof Nazrul Islam, North South University Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Hafiz GA Siddiqi and Md Golam Rabiani, joint secretary of Ministry of Education, are members of the delegation.

The conference is being organised by Ministry of Education and Ministry of Higher Education, Malaysia and the Commonwealth Secretariat.

The theme of this year's conference is 'Education in the Commonwealth: Towards and beyond global goals and targets'.

The conference will bring together a diverse range of educational stakeholders, including education ministers, senior officials, and representatives from national and international agencies, academics, teachers, NGOs, youths and the private sector.

Pledge to save rivers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bahadurshah Park in Laxmibazar area saw a huge crowd yesterday as they thronged a photo exhibition depicting the state of the country's polluted and encroached rivers.

The exhibition was organised as part of The Daily Star-Channel-i joint initiative "To the Prime Minister: Save Rivers, Save Dhaka".

Large groups thronged the venue, and expressed their sadness at the deteriorating condition of the rivers around the capital.

Some vowed to do something to save the rivers while many blamed the "lack of political and social will" in the country to protect the rivers.

The rivers around our city

Yesterday was the inaugural day of another two-day photo exhibition organised as part of the campaign to save the rivers of the country.

The exhibition was held at a venue hardly 150 metres away from the river Buriganga, the state of which was visible from the photographs displayed.

The Mayor of Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) Sadeque Hossain Khoka, who inaugurated the exhibition, said in his brief speech that all people regardless of political affiliation should come forward to save the dying rivers.

"Now I can see the Balu, the Turag and the Sitalakha, and of course the Buriganga! All these rivers need to be cleaned up. I am going to tell my students to come and visit this exhibition," he said.

are our lifelines, and if we allow them to be destroyed -- we are inviting serious threat to the very existence of our capital," Khoka said.

"In many countries, you cannot even throw a piece of paper into a river!" he said.

Anwar Hossain, a teacher from a nearby school, who came to see the photos, said he had no idea prior to seeing the exhibition how bad the condition of the rivers were. He said most people in old Dhaka suffer from the horrible stench from the polluted river.

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Visiting US Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asian Affairs Robert O Blake calls on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her official residence Jamuna in the city yesterday.

PHOTO: PID

Ecological sanitation a must to ensure public health

Speakers tell workshop

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a workshop yesterday underscored the need for ecological sanitation to ensure healthcare of people and save environment.

They also suggested for using Ecosan toilet saying that this new toilet will not only protect public health but also produce organic fertiliser.

The workshop titled 'Ecological sanitation: Issue and prospects in Bangladesh' was held at DPHE auditorium in the city.

Speaking as special guest State Minister for Environment and Forest Mostafizur Rahman said the government and NGOs

will have to encourage people to use this eco-toilet which is environment friendly.

The Ecosan toilet is hygienic and sustainable and through this toilet organic fertiliser can be produced from excreta and urea from urine," said AKM Mozammel Huq, chairman of parliamentary standing committee on land.

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Speaking as special guest State Minister for Environment and Forest Mostafizur Rahman who presented a keynote paper at the workshop.

He said the principles of ecological sanitation are to protect environment, conserve precious water and recycles nutrients and organic matter, prevent disease, promotes health and contributes to food security.

Mujibur said conventional sewerage and on-site wastewater disposal systems such as pit latrines or septic tanks do not offer a sustainable solution to sanitation problems.

Ecosan toilet is the best way of getting organic fertiliser, said Dr Masudul Huq Chowdhury, joint director of BARD, Comilla.

"We started the system in 2004 setting up 15 eco-toilets at four villages in Comilla and are now working to set up 100 more toilets in six villages of Comilla," he added.

Chaired by BASA Chairman Md Badruzzaman, the workshop was also addressed by Dr Quazi Mesbahuddin Ahmed, managing director of PKSE Mustafizur Rahman, chief engineer of DPHE, Dr Andrew Trevett, representative of WHO to Bangladesh, and AKM Sirajul Islam, executive director of BASA.

To-day is the fourth death anniversary of our beloved mother.

(Rabbi Hum Huma Koma Rabbayani Sagira)

Jahan Ara Azim

RIFAT AZIM RAHMAN

IFFAT AZIM ZAKER

May we request all her relatives, friends and well-wishers to remember her in their prayers and pray for the eternal peace of her soul.

ISHRAT AZIM AHMAD

RAHAT AZIM ARIF

ফ্ল্যাটের চাবি রেডি

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