

Foreign Minister Dipu Moni unveils the jacket of Nazneen Haque Mimi's publication titled 'Homes of Bangladesh' at 'Made in Bangladesh' themed fair in New York City recently.

Pavement dwellers 'special category' of urban poor

Says study

DU CORRESPONDENT

All concerned stakeholders should recognise pavement dwellers as a 'special category' of the urban poor, recommended two anthropology professors after a five-month study on pavement dwellers in the city yesterday.

Rahman of Jahangirnagar University conducted the study on 173 pavement dwellers living on nine spots from January to May this year under the project of 'Amrao Manush' (we are humans too).

The baseline study revealed that pavement dwellers belong to the lowest tier of the poverty spectrum and are deprived of basic citizens' rights.

Drug addiction is getting worse among adult and child pavement dwellers and drug dealers often use children as drug carriers. Eviction and harassment by law enforcers pose serious threats to them, the findings claimed.

Dr SM Nurul Alam presented the outcome of the study at a press conference organised by Coalition for the Urban Poor (CUP) at the National Press Club.

The researchers also recommended that income-generating opportunities be spokeattheprogramme.

increased in rural areas to reduce the trend of migration to urban areas.

The findings showed pavement dwellers are involved in 14 types of occupations and switching to other occupations is common, as

there is no occupational security. The dwellers face a number of problems, Dr SM Nurul Alam and Dr Siddiqur including sleeping disturbance, toilet problem, cooking and availability of water.

The dwellers choose pavements because they cannot afford to rented residence, do not have any place to live and proximity to their workplaces, said the study.

Bangladesh chapter of Concern Worldwide started the five-year project in 2008 for the development of pavement dwellers in Dhaka city. Four NGOs and Dhaka City Corporation are also involved in the project.

Since its beginning, the project has enrolled 6,768 pavement dwellers and providing them with different services, including space for sleeping, cooking, medical treatment and non-formal education, to pavement children.

Country Director of Concern Worldwide Kieron Crawley, Mostafa Kaiyum Khan of CUP, and Khandaker Millatul Islam of DCC also

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES Book on home Special database in décor launched

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government is planning to

make a special database of

persons with disabilities accord-

ing to different natures of disabil-

ity and gender in the next census

The minister said the govern-

ment is committed to bringing

every child with disability to

school. Stern actions will be

taken against any school that

refuses to admit children with

Speakers at the seminar said

according to the last census held

disability.

METRO DESK

Foreign Minister Dipu Moni unveiled the jacket of Nazneen Haque Mimi's publication titled 'Homes of Bangladesh' as part of the 'Made in Bangladesh' themed fair in New York City recently, says a press release.

in New York

Divided into thirteen chapters, the 356-page treatise deals with the tradition of Bangladeshi home décor, surveys into the modern developments in concepts of décor and its fine execution as well as craftsmanship that turn the vision into tangible reality.

Bangladesh High Commissioner in Washington Akramul Quader, UN Bangladesh representative Dr AK Abdul Momen, Consul General of Bangladesh consulate in New York M Shamsul Haque, media personality Muhammad Jahangir, actor Afzal Hossain and Channel i Director Zahiruddin Mahmud Mamun were also presentat the ceremony.

The work has proved wildly popular among the expatriate Bangladeshis visiting the fair.

The book has been published by Journeyman and distributed by Agami Prokashoni.

persons with disability in the country. However, the actual number is much higher. They also added another 56 million people with age related disability to the total number.

next census: Minister

They said although disability to be held in 2011, Minister for is a major social and economic Social Welfare Enamul Haque phenomenon in Bangladesh, Mostafa Shahid said yesterday. there is very little reliable data In the national ID cards, the available on this issue, especially persons with disability will be in the absence of a comprehenregarded as Golden Citizens and they will get an increased coversive national survey on persons with disabilities. age of social security protection

Qazi Kholiquzzaman scheme, he also said. Ahmad, president of Bangladesh He was speaking at a seminar Economic Association, said it is a on 'UN Convention on the must to know the actual number Rights of the Persons with of disabled persons to include Disability' organised by them in the mainstream of the Bangladesh Protibandhi Kalyan Samity (BPKS) at Bangabandhu country's socio-economic development. International Conference Centre in the city.

tics it will not be possible to address their needs, he added.

Advocate Salma Ali, executive director of Bangladesh National Women Lawyers Association, stressed ensuring the rights of women and children with disability.

She said it is still not possible to implement different terms of

in 2001 there are about 15 million the UN convention in the legal system, as they are not yet incorporated into the domestic law.

Abdus Sattar Dulal, executive director of BPKS, pointed out that the Ministry of Social Welfare is not solely responsible for disability related issues. Welfare and charity cannot be the solution to disability.

Promoting rights-based approach incorporating disability related development plans under all ministries is necessary, headded.

The speakers also underscored the need for implementing the UN convention adding that the persons with disability should also have access to decision making. Australian High

Commissioner to Bangladesh Justin Lee, Prof Mahmuda Islam Without appropriate statis- of Dhaka University, Jean-Jacques Lauture, first counsellor at the Delegation of the European Commission, Jonathan Foret, chief, PSID Worldwide, BPKS, and Gazi Mohammad Nurul Kabir, managing director of Jatiya Protibandhi Unnayan Foundation, also spoke.

'Give priority to public transport'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a view exchange meeting yesterday stressed the need for fixing parking fees depending on the location and time to establish a sound parking system in the city.

WBBTrust organised the view exchange meeting at its office in

Project Officer of WBB Trust Maruf Rahman presented the keynote paper at the meeting.

He said as the value of land in Dhaka city is very high, it is a must to fix the parking fee on the basis of the real price of the land that will be used for parking.

Prof Mahbub-Un-Nabi of Buet said it is very important to prioritise public transport for a sound transport system.

Giving private cars the priority in the transport plan will not only make the city unlivable, rather it is also a crime in a highly populated citylike Dhaka, he said.

Secretary General of Citizen Rights Movement Tushar Rehman, environmentalist Mohidul Haque Khan, urban planning expert Khandokar Niyaz Rahman, Coordinator of Green Voice Alamgir Kabir and Programme Officer of The Hunger Project Bangladesh Bidhan Chandra Pal addressed the meeting.



Dr A Atiq Rahman, left, exchanges document after signing MoU with Prof Tore Furevik at the residence of Norwegian ambassador in the city yesterday. Norwegian envoy Ingebjørg Støfring, centre, was present on the occasion.

মগবাজার 07978896999 ■ সাইজঃ ৭৪০-১১৪০ বৰ্ণকৃট বনানী 02978899666 সাইজ: ২৩০০ বর্গফুট (দক্ষিণমৃথী) কাকরাহল 07978896969 ■ সাইজঃ ১৮১০ বর্গফুট (কর্ণার প্রউ) গ্রীণরোড 0000068866600 সাইজঃ ১২৯৭ ও ১৪১০ বর্গফুট 0247859999 বেডি দোকান ভাড়া ও ওয়ার হাউজ বিক্রয় মতিঝিল 40060021910 সূট ও অফিস (সাইজঃ ৬২৫-১) ৭৫ বর্ণফুট) ডত্তর 079788896650 রেভি ও নির্মাণাধীন- সাইজ: ৯৬৫, ১৪০০, ২৩৯৫, ২০৪০, ১৯৯৫ বর্ণফুট)

JOHNY MURDER

One arrested from Uttara

A CORRESPONDENT, Gopalganj

Members of the Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested Moudud Quazi, 25, an accused in the US citizen Johny Baroi murder case from Uttara in Dhaka yesterday.

Moudud was a warranted fugitive accused in the murder case of Johny of Muksudpur in Gopalgani.

The US government repeatedly urged Bangladesh government to arrest Moudud.

Rab sources said Moudud and his accomplices abducted Johny from Jolir Par in Muksudpur on April 20, 2008. They took him to Shibchar in Madaripur and demanded ransom for his release.

At one stage after not getting ransom they killed him. The body was found the following day.

A case was filed with Muksudpur Police Station in this connection on April 23, 2008.

He has been handed over to

Madaripur Police Station.

Engineering

+679 3303137

Special training for Rab

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A five-day training on 'crime scene management' given to 21 officials of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) by British yesterday.

Dhaka organised the training at the Rab headquarters in Uttara aiming to increase knowledge to the participants on the specialised field.

National Policing Improvements their officials.

Agency in the UK trained the participants on protection and preservation of a crime scene that is important for the criminal investigations.

Rab Director General (DG) forensic experts ended Hassan Mahmood Khandkar distributed certificate among British High Commission in the participants. Duncan Brown of the British High Commission spoke at the programme.

Hassan Mahmood said since they have some specified job in regard to investigation, the The experts from the training will be very helpful to



PHOTO: COURTESY Rab Director General Hassan Mahmood Khandkar hands over certificate to a participant at the concluding day of a training at

MoU on climate change with Norwegian

centre signed METRO DESK

Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS) in Dhaka and Bjerknes Centre for Climate Research (BCCR) in Norway signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to work in collaboration on the issues of climate change at the residence of Norwegian Ambassador in the city on Wednesday, says a press release.

Four principal areas of collaboration will be: sea level changes and impacts for Bangladesh, South Asia and Southeast Asia summer monsoon changes and impacts on Bangladesh, mass balance changes of Himalayan and Tibetan glaciers and its effects on Bangladesh and research training and exchange of scientific staff.

The collaboration aims to involve other institutions both from Bangladesh and Norway.

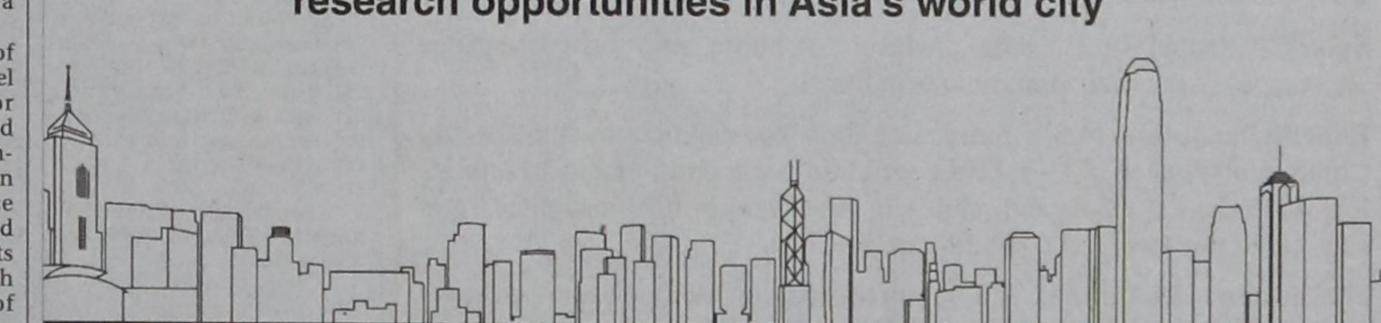
Both institutions are strong players towards the Intergovernmental Panel of

BRAC

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Rab headquarters in the city yesterday. Climate Research (IPCC)

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Law

Candidates are advised to fill up BRACU Application Form available at BRAC University website (http://www.bracu.ac.bd/about/download/ApplicationForm Job.doc) and apply to the Registrar, BRAC University, 66 Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212. Tel: 882-4051 ext. 4005 by 30 November 2009. Application forms may also be sent by email to registrar@bracu.ac.bd

Call for Applications

Application Deadline: 1 December 2009 Website: www.rgc.edu.hk/hkphd/

The Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme has been launched by the Research Grants Council (RGC) of Hong Kong in 2009. The Fellowship Scheme aims to attract the outstanding students in the world to pursue their PhD degree programmes in Hong Kong.

The Fellowship will provide an annual stipend of HK\$240,000 (approximately US\$30,000) and a conference and research-related travel allowance of HK\$10,000 (approximately US\$1,300) per year for a period of three years.

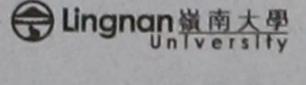
135 PhD Fellowships will be awarded for the 2010 /11 academic year.

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