

## WILDLIFE OF BANGLADESH

# Checklist of 1,042 animals published



Radir Pata Futki (*Phylloscopus schwarzi* Radde's Warbler)

42 species of amphibians or toads and frogs, 157 species of reptiles, 718 species of birds and 125 species of mammals are there



Kankrabhook Bang (crab-eating frog)



Chhoto Bhua Daini Badur/Chhoto Daini Chamchika (*megaderma spasma*)

DU CORRESPONDENT

When Dr Reza Khan looks at nature, he goes for the minuscule detail. Even, with his one eye impaired, he can pick a camouflaged spider that looks like a scorpion from the hillside. He has an enormous interest in nature and its wildlife.

So, when Dr Khan goes for a checklist of wildlife, it certainly becomes an asset for the country. This is what he did when he introduced yesterday his book titled "Wildlife of Bangladesh A Checklist" for 1,042 animals in four categories -- 42 species of amphibians or toads and frogs, 157 species of reptiles, 718 species of birds and 125 species of mammals.

And he has put Bangla names for each living creature in the checklist. Now that is an enormous job done by this eminent zoologist Dr Reza Khan.

For the first time, the book with photographs of the wildlife and zoological and English or common names of the animals has reported three birds and animals, which are found in the country.

The newly recorded birds and animals are--- Kankrabhook Bang (crab-eating frog), Chhoto Bhua Daini Badur/Chhoto Daini Chamchika (*megaderma spasma*) and Radir Pata Futki

(*Phylloscopus schwarzi* Radde's Warbler).

Unwrapping the book at a function at the National Press Club auditorium in the city.

Environment and Forest Secretary Dr Mihir Kanti Majumder congratulated the author for preparing the checklist. He termed the list "a

great job" for the nation and the country.

"We have to protect our biodiversity for our own existence," said Mihir, also the chief guest of the publication ceremony.

The checklist has recorded 42 species of amphibians or toads and frogs, 157 species of reptiles or turtles-tortoises, lizards, snakes and crocodiles, 718 species of birds and 125 species of mammals.

In addition, names of 50 species or so of wildlife that can only be confirmed to be present in the country after getting sites or specimen records through visual supports or actual animals collection and cataloguing.

Author Dr Reza said Sahitya Prokash, a publication house, has published the book marking the International Year of Biodiversity 2010.

Celebrated wildlife biologist Prof Kazi Zaker Husain also congratulated the author for making the checklist. He stressed on expansion of teaching on wildlife for better management of forest and other objects in the biodiversity.

Speaking at the occasion Mofidul Hoque of Sahitya Prokash said nature lover Dr Reza is always devoted to wildlife and his contribution to the country through this book will be helpful for many in the society.

The price of the checklist is fixed at Tk 200.



A book titled "Wildlife of Bangladesh - A Checklist," written by eminent zoologist Dr Reza Khan, was launched at a function at the National Press Club in the city yesterday. From left are Dr Mihir Kanti Majumder, Prof Kazi Zaker Husain, Dr Reza Khan and Mofidul Haque.

PHOTO: STAR

## Govt to fill 2 lakh vacant posts, says Ashraful

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Recruitment process is going on to fill over two lakh posts remaining vacant in different government organisations, said LGRD Minister Syed Ashraful Islam yesterday.

Ashraful, also in charge of the establishment ministry in the parliamentary business, said this in the House in question time.

According to a 2009 statistics, the minister referred to, the total number of posts in the government organisations is 12.58 lakh with 2.10 lakh vacancies for different ranks.

Meanwhile, Water Resources Minister Ramesh Chandra Sen said the government has planned to introduce a new law styled "Bangladesh Water Act" to ensure best use of water resources for entire development of the agriculture-based economy of the country.

Sen said the new law will be introduced in next six months.

CONTROVERSY OVERALIST

In response to lawmakers' queries, Law Minister Shafique Ahmed said Nurul Amin and Raja Tridiv Roy lost memberships of Bangladesh Constituent Assembly for loyalty to the then Pakistan government.

And, the law minister added, 43 other constituent assembly members had been sacked from the then ruling Awami League in 1972.

About sack of the 43 members, a number of AL lawmakers including Tofail Ahmed and Suranjit Sengupta argued that some of the members were active freedom fighters and sacked for violating party discipline, not for loyalty to the then Pakistan government.

The question arose since the law minister did not mention why the 43 members were sacked from the then AL.

Following the confusion, Speaker Shah Abdul Hamid expunged the law minister's answer.

## DU cancels admission of 12 students

DU CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University authorities have cancelled all level of examination results of 12 students who took admission in two departments by fraudulent means.

The syndicate, the highest decision-making body of the university, has recently cancelled the results of nine students of International Relations (IR) and three of Public Administration departments, based on reports submitted by a fact-finding committee on fake admission, says a DU Press release.

The fake students at IR department include Aynal Haque, Somel Mahmud, Abdullah AL Roman, Mohammad Mazaharul Islam and Mohammad Anisur Rahman of AF Rahman Hall, Farhana Rahman, Nusrat Sharmeen and Samina Sayeed of Bangladesh-Kuwait Moitree Hall, Mohammad Rezaul Islam Khan of Ziaur Rahman Hall.

Students of Public Administration are Zakia Sultana of Fazilatunnesa Mujib Hall, Mohammad Shah Alam of A F Rahman Hall and Nazia Ahmed of Rokeya Hall.

## Indian NDC team calls on army chief

UNB, Dhaka

Visiting Indian National Defence College (NDC) team leader Major General BS Daulta paid a courtesy call on Chief of Army Staff General Abdul Mubeen at Army Headquarters in the city yesterday.

He discussed matters of professional interest with the army chief, said an ISPR press release.

Later, a presentation on Bangladesh Army was arranged by Military Training Directorate at Army Headquarters conference room. Members of the NDC team and senior officers of Bangladesh Army were present.

Earlier, General Daulta met Principal Staff Officer of Armed Forces Division Lieutenant General Abdul Wadud.

Later, the NDC team visited National Defence College at Mirpur Cantonment.



A taskforce seizes a huge number of pirated books on medical science and business education from binding houses at Kalabagan in the city yesterday.

## Huge pirated books seized, 9 held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An anti-piracy taskforce seized over 4,000 copies of pirated foreign books worth around Tk 30 lakh from two Kalabagan binding houses in the city yesterday.

Member Secretary Manzurur Rahman of the taskforce, which was created by the ministry of cultural affairs, led the drive and arrested nine employees -- six of Shatata Book Binders and three of Shimu Book Binders -- for doing the illicit business.

The owners of the binding houses at Free School Street were absent during the drive, and two cases were filed with the Kalabagan Police Station.

Manzurur said the seized books on medical and commerce education had been printed

elsewhere, and are worth over Tk 30 lakh.

Also a registrar of copyright, Manzurur, said the yesterday's drive was part of their regular drive against pirated books and compact discs (CD).

On Tuesday, the taskforce seized around 1,000 pirated albums and non-brand illegal CDs including pornographies from some shops at Mirpur-1 Cooperative Market.

They also conducted the anti-piracy drive at Banglabazar and other places before Ramadan, said Manzurur, adding the drive will be on as piracy of books tarnish the image of the country abroad.

Members of Rapid Action Battalion and Kalabagan Police Station accompanied the taskforce.

## Encourage posts in parties for the challenged

Rights body urges EC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

National Alliance of Disabled People's Organisation (NADPO) demanded of the Election Commission to take steps to create positions for the persons with disabilities in the political parties for ensuring their participation in politics of Bangladesh.

The organisation made the demand when NADPO leader called on Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) ATM Shamsul Huda at latter's office in the city yesterday.

It placed a 13-point demand to ensure rights of persons with disabilities.

Election Commission (EC) has to deal with political parties carefully as the parties consider the EC obstacle for them, said Shamsul Huda in response to the demand.

Terming the demand "sensitive," the CEC said the political parties run their activities freely after the liberation war but they are now brought under a framework.

Other demands include challenged persons friendly polling centres, inclusion of detailed information in voter ID cards, providing orientation to local EC officials on disability and provision to allow the challenged to enter polling centres with their preferred persons.

ATM Shamsul Huda said the EC will consider the demand and fulfill as much as possible.

Election Commissioner Shakhawat Hossain, President Md Abdur Sattar Dulal and Secretary General Jahangir Alam of NADPO, among others, were present.

Persons with disability represent about 10 percent of the total population. Of them, around 80 lakh have the voting rights in the country.

## PRESIDENT'S CLEMENCY

# Govt using president for political causes

Says Delwar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Secretary General Khandaker Delwar Hossain yesterday said people's confidence in rule of law would be hampered due to the presidential clemency to the convicted in the Gama murder case.

While addressing a discussion at National Press Club in the city, he also alleged that government is using the president for its own political purposes.

Zia Parishad organised the meeting on the occasion of BNP Senior Vice Chairman Tarique Rahman's release day.

Twenty ruling party activists of Natore, sentenced to death in Gama murder case, recently got released from jail following a presidential clemency.

Delwar also claimed that the Awami League-led alliance government destroyed the economy of the country and as part of its conspiracy, has signed treaties to allow transit through Chittagong and Mongla Port.

The neighbouring country has encircled Bangladesh's economy 'like an octopus', he said, hinting towards India.

## ENJOY A RELAXING RETREAT IN SINGAPORE AND BINTAN



From **৳ 74,950**  
4 nights/5 days for adult

From **৳ 49,950**  
4 nights/5 days for child

- 1 Economy Class ticket to Singapore
- 2-nights hotel accommodation in Singapore
- 1-day tour to Universal Studios Singapore®
- 2-nights hotel accommodation in Bintan, Indonesia

Schedule: Departure 14 Oct and arrival 19 Oct  
Departure 04 Nov and arrival 09 Nov  
Departure 18 Nov and arrival 23 Nov

Singapore Airlines bring you 7 weekly flights to Singapore, one of the world's most cosmopolitan city. Situated less than an hour away from Singapore is Bintan. An island cradled in the northern tip of Indonesia, it boasts lush greenery, sparkling blue sea and beautiful beaches. With these exciting holiday packages, enjoy an invigorating holiday that refreshes your mind and body. **To book and for more information, contact Discovery Tours & Logistics at 01713444361, 01730097181 or 01713444350.**



Terms & Conditions: Prices quoted per person return airfare on Economy Class, associated taxes, surcharges, twin-sharing basis hotel accommodation in Singapore and Bintan, correct at the time of printing. Packages must be purchased together from today till 30 September 2010. Passengers will take ferry transfer for Singapore-Bintan-Singapore. Date change is not allowed. Other terms and conditions apply.