

Methodology of monitoring climate change impacts in a month

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The methodology of monitoring climate change impacts in the country will be finalised in a month to make a database to formulate a strategy and an action plan to deal with the climate change.

The information collected will help Bangladesh strengthen its position in international climate change negotiations, as well as prepare for future natural disasters, said the experts in a national workshop yesterday.

Department of Forest (DoF) and

International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Bangladesh jointly organised the workshop on "Enhancement of Bangladesh's Capacity to Participate in Road to Copenhagen and Post Copenhagen Regime" that was held at the auditorium of DoF.

The experts will find out criteria on what, when and how to monitor to know the long-term effects of climate change on eight sectors -- agriculture; forest, flora and fauna; fresh water fisheries; marine water fisheries; hydrometeorology; health; livelihood and poverty; and livestock.

About 100 scientists, academics

and professionals from the public sector and various research organisations participated in the workshop and they would find out evidence and indicators of climate change and assess the impact in those sectors.

DoF and IUCN, Bangladesh will submit the report then to the forest and environment ministry.

The speakers also said it is very important to establish a monitoring system for future (climate change impact) projections and the food security of Bangladesh.

"The government is concerned about the current climatic conditions

and the indicators set in this project will be very useful. So I encourage continuing the research in this area," said Dr Mihir Kanti Mazumder, secretary of the Ministry of Environment and Forest, in the workshop as the chief guest.

"The impact of climate change is visible now, such as the lack of rain and unexpected floods."

The workshop was facilitated by Dr Ainun Nishat, vice-chancellor of BRAC University while Ishtiaq Uddin Ahmad, chief conservator of forest was present as a special guest.



PHOTO: STAR
Rajuk dismantles illegal portion of a six-storey building at Uttara Sector No. 3 in the city yesterday.

250 structures demolished

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha (Rajuk) yesterday demolished around 250 kancha structures constructed illegally on a portion of Ashulia Beribadh in the city.

Rajuk Magistrate Rokon-Ud-Doula led the drive started at 10:00am and continued till 3:00pm.

Rajuk officials, two platoon police and around 50 day labourers with one pay loader joined the demolition.

In another drive, Rajuk team led by Rokon-Ud-Doula dismantled a six-storey building No. 19 Road 7/C, Uttara Sector-3 of the city, which has been constructed violating the approved plan.

"We will continue the drive on the building on Sunday to complete the demolition of the illegal portion," said Rokon.

Monowarul Islam, executive engineer of Uttara, said they have demolished around 250 kancha houses and shops constructed illegally on footpaths and on the embankment stretching from Ashulia Beribadh to Road-16 under sector-10 of Uttara.

He said they demolished all the structures from the place, which is a hub of different criminal activities, including mugging and drugs selling.

"We knocked down illegal structures in the same place even two months back but they have built those again just after the drive," he said.

A drive should be conducted at the eastern side of the embankment as the same kind of activities are also going on there, said Monowarul adding the Water Development Board can conduct the drive, as it is the jurisdiction of the board.

2 judicial officers suspended

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two judicial officers, also former lower court judges, have been suspended for misconduct and corruption while discharging judicial functions.

The law ministry has published a gazette notification in this regard on September 21.

The suspended officials are former Meherpur district judge Jahangir Alam Mollah and former Madaripur additional judge Habibur Rahman.

They are accused of passing arbitrary orders in cases, taking bribes from litigants and for misconducts in different ways while discharging duties as judges at the district courts earlier, sources said.

Earlier this year, three judicial officers were sus-

pending on similar allegations, said law ministry sources.

If they are found guilty in the final inquiry, they might be dismissed of their services, said a government high official.

The authorities concerned have already lodged a departmental case with the relevant section of the ministry against Habibur Rahman. A similar case against Jahangir Alam Mollah is being prepared for corruption and misconduct.

Sources said the allegations against them were found proved in the preliminary investigation.

Formal inquiries will be held against them, the sources said, adding that if the allegations are proven, action will be taken against them as per Supreme Court advice.

Non-govt college teachers stage sit-in

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Activists of the Bangladesh Non-government College Honours, Masters Teachers Association yesterday observed a sit-in programme across the country demanding to bring them under Monthly Pay Order (MPO).

Teachers of 56 colleges took part in the programme in Dhaka, Khulna, Noakhali, Rajbari, Tangail, says a press release.

They observed the programme in front of the deputy commissioner's office and submitted a memorandum to prime minister through deputy commissioner and requested to convey it.

The association will boycott classes on October 27, 28 and observe a hunger strike on December 27 in front of Central Shaheed Minar, if their demands are not met by this time.

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