HUGE SUPPLY OF SACRIFICIAL ANIMALS IN CITY

Cattle traders fear loss

HELEMUL ALAM

A huge number of cattle have already been brought to the city's 14 cattle markets, including permanent cattle market in Gabtali, till yesterday ahead of Eid-ul-

The cattle traders are very much anxious about their profit fearing lower price this year than the previous years.

The number of cattle buyers, however, was very low yesterday evening while a small number of cattle were

The number of cattle are almost double in the city markets compared to the same time of other years, as a huge number of cows could not be sold for about three months due to anthrax scare, said Nazir Hossain, a cattle trader from Chuadanga who brought five cows to Dhalpur cattle market.

The government on October 7 withdrew the red alert, which was issued on September 5 following anthrax panic in the country.

"I could make profit of Tk 50,000 selling five cows during Eid-ul-Azha last year, but this year I am fearing loss due to a

huge supply of cows," said Amir Hossain, another trader from Chuadanga at the same market.

A huge number of cows are still on the way to come, which is making us frustrated, said Mannan who brought 20 cattle to Kamalapur market.

Only two trucks full of cattle came in Golapbagh cattle market from Chuadanga around five days before the Eid-ul-Azha last year, but this time it is about 20 trucks, said Saidul Islam, a cattle trader of the area.

Anthrax, which stopped slaughtering many cattle, is the main reason for the huge supply of the sacrificial animals, he

The sale of cattle already starts, but price is little bit low compared to last year. Chunni Mia, of Sayedabad, who bought a cow at Tk 55,000 from Dhalpur cattle market said the cow he bought costs Tk 10,000 less compared to the price at the same time last year.

Cattle trader Moula Bepari from Pabna said he sold the cow at this price to start his selling, though he could not able make profit from it.

"I could sell this cow at around Tk

70,000 to 80,000 last year," he claimed.

METROPOLITAN/NEWS

Though the number of customers was very low, Yasin, a cattle trader of Meherpur, has been offered Tk 2.50 lakh for his cow that has a weight of about 12 mounds in the Kamalapur market. He is demandingTk5.50 lakh.

Another trader, Abbas, who brought his cow on November 11, got an offer of Tk 3 lakh, though he wants Tk 5 lakh for the

Cattle market on the streets

Like previous years different cattle markets have already started to sit on the city roads creating huge sufferings for the commuters.

The Dholpur cattle market has already occupied a huge portion of the roads of the area.

The cattle traders are blocking roads of the city including Kamalapur, Gopibagh and Nayabazar. Executive Magistrate of Dhaka City

Corporation Kholilur Rahman said they have already started drives with two mobile courts and will start a full-fledged drive from today against illegal cattle selling on the roads.



A makeshift cattle market at Nabab Yusuf Road in the city's Nayabazar yesterday, blocks five adjacent roads leaving almost no space for vehicles to pass through.

Only 25pc diabetics have access to treatment

Speakers tell seminar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Only one fourth of the total diabetes patients receive treatment in the country for lack of service and awareness, said speakers at a press conference yesterday.

Bangladesh Diabetic Society (BADAS) arranged the conference at its auditorium at Birdem hospital, ahead of the World Diabetes Day to be observed today.

They said diabetes cases have been increasing in the country day by day with 60 lakh people currently suffering from the dis-

If the cases of diabetes continue to rise in this way, the number of patients would cross one crore by 2020, they said.

Urbanisation, lack of physical activities, and fast food habit among people are the main reasons for having type-2 diabetes. Changing in lifestyle can prevent 70 percent of the cases, said the speakers.

They also stressed the need for increasing awareness on diabetes and its prevention.

The speakers suggested that incorporating messages on diabetes in school curric-

ulum, setting up playground at every schools, providing health education at the hospitals and clinics, and using information technologies to disseminate aware-

ness messages. BADAS President Prof AK Azad Chowdhury, Secretary General Mohammad Saif Uddin, and Dr Arup Ratan Chaudhury spoke at the programme among others.

As elsewhere across the globe, Bangladesh also observes the World Diabetes Day today with the slogan "Let's take the control of Diabetes now."

BADAS will organise a rally and a discussion and will provide free testing of blood sugar at different places in the capital.

It will also hold question answer session with the expert doctors at its auditorium and will broadcast awareness messages on electronic media.

An estimated three crore people were suffering from diabetes in 1985 across the globe. It reached to 25 crore just after 25 years. If it cannot be prevented, the number would reach to 38 crore within the next 20

Today's JSC, JDC exams on Nov 22

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Junior School Certificate (JSC) and Junior Dakhil Certificate (JDC) examinations scheduled for today will now be held at 10:00am on November 22 for unavoidable reasons.

Dhaka Education Board Chairman Prof Fahima Khatun told The Daily Star that the examinations were postponed due to unavoidable reasons. However JDC examinations scheduled for tomorrow will be held as per schedule, she added.

Today's JSC exam was on mathematics and JDC exam was on social science.

JSC and JDC examinations started on November 4 with 15,05,391 class VIII students participating from 27,221 educational institutions across the country.

Gear up efforts to get share of global climate fund

UNDP chief urges Bangladesh

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Chief Helen Clark yesterday asked Bangladesh to gear up efforts to obtain its share from the multi-

billion-dollar global climate change fund. She was talking to the media to conclude her three-day trip to Bangladesh at Sonargaon Hotel in the city.

Clark, former prime minister of New Zealand, also hoped the newly established human rights commission would address the issue of extra-judicial killings and harassment of opposition leaders and activists.

The UNDP administrator hailed Bangladesh for its achievement on some indicators of millennium development goals (MDGs), but said the country has to accelerate its efforts to address issues like maternal mortality and environment.

But most of her talks and queries of journalists were on climate change issue.

Clark said there would be more international finance for the developing countries for adaptation to and mitigation of climate change. She hinted the fund might be increased ten fold to \$100 billion within a few years.

She said Bangladesh is the country

most exposed to climate change in the

world. But it cannot draw large-scale

fund without proper planning and strategy. "It (Bangladesh) should certainly gear up its efforts to have its share from that." The chief of the UN development

agency said they are supporting countries so that they have the right strategies, policies, and plans in line with adaptation and mitigation of climate change. "You have to make a proposal for getting the Bangladesh has a lot to do in this area

for capacity building, and it should have a strong national strategy to fight the climate change, she said. On carbon development mechanism, she said, "Most of the money has gone to

and South Africa. We are working for the better access to the fund." Clark also cautioned against the intensity and varieties of disasters. For the affected areas like Southern Bangladesh, there must be an effective adaptation

large economies like China, India, Brazil

strategy, she added. But Clark urged Bangladesh to see the climate change adaptation in the context of disaster risk management.

She is not happy with the developed countries' reluctance to release their promised fund. "Obviously, the money is not coming," she said, "The UNDP is advocating for other countries so that the funds come as grants, not as loans."

On the queries into extra-judicial killings and the opposition leaders and activists being picked up, the UNDP chief said, "We expect the newly established human rights commission to have voice on the issue.

She also declined to comment on dayto-day political event of Bangladesh, saying that all countries have internal problems. "I think, we can contribute to over longer period of time, supporting the development of politics through dia-

eager to help Bangladesh prepare a database for population and land registration and criminal records.

"We have also been discussing with ministers on how we can help the government's digital agenda, particularly in the land record, where Bangladesh needs to pay a lot of attention."

She said digitisation is important in terms of Bangladesh's population registry. The use of ICT is also important in improving local governments. Clark hailed Bangladesh for its signifi-

cant progress in poverty reduction, primary schooling, gender equality in school and child mortality rate. Yet Bangladesh has to do a lot to accelerate the pace of work for addressing

maternal mortality, she said, adding that one of the highest maternal mortality rates in the world is in Bangladesh. "On MDGs, Bangladesh has achieved

something to be really proud of." But she is concerned about the deadline. "We have left only five years to reach the MDG targets by 2015, and it is urgent to accelerate the pace in the areas where we have not achieved much."

She said like many countries, Bangladesh has to work hard on maternal mortalities, as the rate remains high.

Clark, who served as New Zealand's prime minister for three consecutive terms between 1999 and 2008, urged Bangladesh to give due attention to environmental, biodiversity, and conservation issues.

During her visit, Clark met some key figures including Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and the Leader of the Opposition The UNDP head also said her agency is in Parliament Khaleda Zia.

KHALEDA'S HOUSE **US** embassy calls for dialogue

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The US Embassy in Dhaka in a written official statement said the issue regarding the cantonment house of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia can be resolved through dialogue and established legal procedures.

The embassy issued the statement last evening. The statement says the embassy was closely monitoring yes-Govt changes plan, decides to terday's events related to the Khaleda's house and the hartal called by the opposition BNP across the country today.

There are many important issues that Bangladesh facing. It is important for the government and opposition to work together for the common good of the country, reads the statement. They also called on all sides to exercise restraint.

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Discussion

Media and Research Initiatives in Coastal Bangladesh will hold a discussion. Venue: National Press Club, Time: 10:00am.

Meeting

Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council will organise a meeting. Venue: BARC, Farm Gate, Time: 10:00am.

ARSENIC POISONING

Take measures based on researches

Speakers tell seminar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The data found in different researches on arsenic needs to be integrated, and coordinated efforts should be taken on the basis of it, speakers told a seminar yesterday.

They said there is a large gap between the requirement and allocation regarding the mitigation, which should be removed. The daylong seminar was organised by Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology Alumni Association (BUETAA) at Sheraton Hotel in the city.

State Minister for Information and Communication

Technology Yeafes Osman in his speech as the chief guest said

the government is very much aware of the arsenic hazards and is taking steps to mitigate arsenic problem. Chief Engineer Md Nuruzzaman of Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE) presented a paper on the govern-

ment's arsenic mitigation programme. He said arsenic in Tubewell water was first identified in 1993, and

a blanket screening carried out in 270 upazilas shows 29 percent tubewell (about 12 lakh out of 50 lakh) are contaminated by arsenic. However, the degree of contamination varies from upazila to upazila and even within union, he added.

Nuruzzaman said the major mitigation programmes of the government are awareness building, testing of tubewell water, marking the contaminated and uncontaminated tubewells, providing alternative water supply options and patients identification and management.

The arsenic mitigation options are pond sand filter, rainwater harvesting, ring well, deep tubewell and arsenic removal technology, he said adding that arsenic mitigation committee at local level to be activated to address the arsenic issue.

Several other papers including health effects of arsenic and sustainability of safe water devices were presented at the daylong seminar.

Professor Jamilur Reza Chowdhury, president of BUETAA, chaired the inaugural session of the seminar, which was addressed by Syed Moazzem Hossain, chairman of delta life insurance, Kazi Matin Ahmed of department of geology of Dhaka University.

Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Motowalli of Baitun Nur Mosque at o a r Shahara in the city's Badda, passed away on Friday

ing from old age complica-Hekim left behind his wife, one son, and two daughters to

at the age of 85. He was suffer-

mourn his death. His Namaz-e-Janaza was held at Joar Shahara bazaar. He was buried at

his family graveyard in the same area. The deceased's qulkhwani

will be held at his residence at Ka, 143 in Joar Shahara on 15 November after Asr prayers. Relatives and well-wishers are requested to attend the qulkhwani.

Death anniversary METRO DESK



Mahfuza Banu Shelly, a former assistant director of Health Directorate,

Dr

says a press release. On this occasion, Qurankhwani and milad

mahfil was held at her residence on Friday. Relatives, friends and well

wishers are requested to pray for the departed soul.

ism ministry is searching land for the airport adjacent to the site of proposed

acquire more land BSS, Dhaka The government has changed its plan for the proposed Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib International Airport as the highups decided to acquire more land to build three runways instead of two con-

into the ground on November 7.

BANGABANDHU AIRPORT

demand. "Now, we are looking for acquiring more than 10,000 acres of land instead of earlier 6,000 acres for making provision of building three runways," Civil Aviation and Tourism Secretary Shafique Alam Mehedi told at a press briefing at Balaka Bhaban yesterday.

sidering next 100 years' passenger

At the first phase, two runways would be set up for the airport and the third one to be built later on as the government's highups directed to make the plan targeting next hundred years' passenger demand. Presently, the civil aviation and tour-

Padma Bridge, Mehedi said. A civil aviation ministry team led by the secretary has already identified two sites in the south of the capital- one in Bhanga upazila under Faridpur district and the other is Arial bill, situated in Srinagar upazila of Munshiganj district and Dohar and Nawabganj upazila in Dhaka district.

metro rail.

the PM later on.

The civil aviation authority will submit

The government has already set up a

site selection report to the ministry by this

month, which would be handed over to

cell under the Civil Aviation and Tourism

Ministry to execute the project of con-

structing the Airport to facilitate move-

ing the tender process as well as coordinat-

ing the entire construction process of the

airport before 2014, Head of the cell Jaynal

airport builders from abroad have already

contacted to set up the airport which

would be built under public private-

partnership as the government will only

The ministry will publish the expres-

A number of internationally reputed

Abedin Talukdar told BSS.

provide the land, he said.

The cell will be responsible for conduct-

Workers start to demolish the seven-storey Asian Haider Tower at Kathalbagan in the city yesterday that tilted and sank at least ten feet

The team will inspect the site from ment of some 80 lakh passengers a year. helicopter on November 15 for getting a first-hand aerial view, Mehedi said.

Earlier, the pre-feasibility study team of the civil aviation authority has initially selected three sites-- two at Trishal in Mymensingh and one at Bhuapur in

"The two sites in the south are not far more than 60 km from Dhaka city whereas the earlier sites in the north are more than 100 km from the capital," he

As per the feasibility study, the airport sion of interest (EOI) as part of the process of floating tender within December this will be connected with the capital through an elevated expressway and a year, Talukdar added.