



Nirapad Development Foundation forms a human chain in front of the National Press Club in the city yesterday demanding demarcation of all the city water bodies and canals and eviction of encroachers from there.

PHOTO: STAR

Govt move to recover city wetlands fails

Say speakers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has failed to demarcate the boundaries of wetlands in the capital and its surrounding areas in last one year, speakers told an event yesterday.

They said the government and authorities concerned were active during last one year to recover the canals and wetlands from grabbers. But they have virtually lost to an invisible force, they added.

The remarks came from the event on drawing maps of wetlands and canals in the capital and its environs, says a press release.

Nirapad Development Foundation and Campaign for Development Foundation jointly organised it at National Press Club premises.

Some youths drew the maps in protest of the government's failure to demarcate the

wetlands despite various attempts in last one year.

The discussants said existence of human civilisation in the city and its neighbouring areas will be destroyed if the wetlands in the areas cease to exist.

There were once 43 canals in Dhaka city, but 25 canals have disappeared in the last three decades while width of existing canals has been squeezed due to encroaching, they added.

The authorities' negligence to the canals and the government's failure are the main reasons behind loss of the wetlands, observed the speakers.

Muhsin Tutul of Campaign for Development Foundation, KM Rokibul Islam of PSS, and Nasima Akhter Lipi of Nirapad Development Foundation, among others, were present.

'Adivasis hope recognition in constitution this year'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a convention yesterday demanded constitutional recognition, rights and use of mother tongue in primary-level education for indigenous people.

They also demanded a pro-people Chittagong Hill Tracts Land Commission to end land disputes in the region.

The demands came at the two-day long national convention of National Coalition for Indigenous People in LGRD Bhaban in city's Agargaon.

Speakers at the convention said much of Bangladesh's pride lies in its ethnic and cultural diversity of over 76 different communities.

"We hope indigenous people would receive constitutional recognition and rights

by 2011," said Prof Rahman, director of Save the Children, USA.

Jatiya Samajtrantik Dal President Hasanul Haque Inu said land disputes, army intervention and rehabilitation of settlers in the hill tracks are some of the major problems.

Speaking as the chief guest, Law Minister Shafique Ahmed expressed solidarity, assuring that the government will review their demands and recommendations.

Former adviser to a caretaker government Rasheda K Chowdhury, Gono Forum Presidium Member Pankaj Bhattacharya, columnist Syed Abul Maksud, CCDB Executive Director Jayanta Odhikari and Caritas Bangladesh Executive Director Benedict Alo D' Rozario also spoke.

MAIMING CHILDREN

Rab members arrest another

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) yesterday claimed to arrest another person in connection with maiming a young boy on September 6 in Kamrangirchar though local police denied gang involvement.

Rab-1 personnel arrested Khandaker Omar Faruque, 28, president of ward-7 unit AL of Kamrangirchar union, from his in-law's Kamrangirchar residence.

Earlier, Rab arrested Shariful Islam alias Korban from city's Uttara in this connection. Rab claimed that he was a member of a gang that abducts and maims children to force into begging or prostitution and takes away the money.

Faruque, in presence of Rab officials, said he along with Nazma, Korban, Jony, Imran and Saddam at Nazma's Kamrangirchar residence maimed seven-year old Neyamul.

However, Faruque was not allowed to converse with reporters at the press briefing. Commander Mohammad Sohail, director

of Rab's legal and media wing, said Nazma, wife Liakat Ali, chairman of Taranagar union parishad of Keraniganj, used to lead the crimes. Nazma, with Korban second in command, used a local club adjacent to Nazma's residence to control their crime world, said Faruque. However, Liakat said he and his family are not in good terms with Faruque and denied allegations against Nazma.

Rab earlier said they arrested Korban following a news report aired by a private television channel in association with two human rights organisations -- Bangladesh Human Rights Foundation and Black Truth Productions Centre.

However, Officer-in-Charge Shafiqul Islam of Kamrangirchar Police Station differed with Rab officials.

"According to our investigation, two other children, Imran and Russel, injured Neyamul following a feud and all three children are neighbours," said Shafiqul.



Rise in temperature likely

UNB, Dhaka

Mild to moderate cold wave is sweeping over Dhaka, Rajshahi, Rangpur and Khulna divisions and the regions of Sandwip, Satkhira, Comilla, Feni, Srimongal, Khepupara and Barisal and it may continue as mild cold wave in next 12 hours till 6:00pm today.

Night temperature may rise by 2-3 degree Celsius over the country, met office said.

Moderate to thick fog may occur over Rajshahi and Rangpur divisions and the river basins of the country and light to moderate fog may occur elsewhere over the country during mid night till morning.

The sun sets in the capital at 5:33pm today and rises at 6:44am tomorrow.

Country's highest temperature 25.6 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Sitakunda and lowest 06.4 degrees Celsius at Srimongal.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	18.5	10.0	95	84
Chittagong	22.4	10.2	96	69
Rajshahi	19.0	06.9	100	89
Rangpur	13.0	07.6	100	95
Khulna	19.6	10.0	100	83
Barisal	22.5	09.2	92	84

Check river accidents

Speakers urge govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a discussion yesterday demanded a separate monitoring system to ensure safe water transportation in the country's haor region as 5 to 6 major river accidents occur annually, claiming over 100 lives, says a press release.

The demand came from a consultancy meeting at Moni Singh-Forhad Memorial Trust in the city organised by Nagorik Sanghati, Surakkha, Agragati Foundation and Bangladesh Development and Environment Forum (BDEF).

Chaired by BDEF President Sardar Amin, Environment ministry Deputy Secretary Zafar Siddique also spoke on the occasion.

NEWS IN brief

Manik Saha's death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the seventh death anniversary of Journalist Manik Chandra Saha, says a press release.

On this day in 2004, Manik Saha, a Khulna correspondent of the Daily New Age and a stringer of BBC Bangla Service, was bombed to death in front of Khulna Press Club.

On this occasion, a human chain will be formed in front of the National Press Club demanding proper investigation of the killing and trying the killers.



Rab recovers drugs in Ctg

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab-7) recovered 42 pieces of yaba tablets, 38 bottles of phynsdyll, 1.5 kgs of cannabis and arrested four people from Reazuddin Bazar area in the port city on Thursday night.

The arrestees are Manjur Alam, 44, Md Omar, 20, Nurul Amin, 25, and Md Mithu, 20.

Acting on a tip-off, a team of Rab-7 led by Deputy Commander Major Abus Samad conducted the drive.

Rab sources said the arrestees admitted that they are involved in different contraband drug trading in the port city for a long time.

The arrestees were handed over to the Kotwali Police Station.

Blankets distributed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ex-students Association of Adamjee Cantonment School and College (EXSAACSC) yesterday distributed blankets and mosquito nets among the destitute to mark 50th anniversary of the school, says a press release.

Captain Syed Ali Asgar Rizvi was present as the chief guest while former lawmaker Sirajuddin Ahmed was present as special guests on the occasion.

EXSAACSC President Ambassador Ashfaqur Rahman was also present at the programme.

NU asks students to enrol online

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The National University (NU) authorities have asked the candidates who have passed in the admission test for first year honours course under the academic session of 2010-11 to get registered online for admission.

The candidates of the first merit list will have to complete their registration by filling in application forms available on NU websites at www.nu-ba.info or www.nu-bbs.info or www.nu-bsc.info -- within January 26, says a NU press release.

After filling up the forms, the candidates are required to collect hand copy of the application form and submit it to respective colleges with admission and registration fees and necessary documents.

The second merit list will be published on January 30.

Detail information about admission is available at NU websites and respective colleges.

THE CHITTAGONG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
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CAREER OPPORTUNITY

The Chittagong Chamber of Commerce & Industry requires following personnels for immediate appointment:

(a) **Deputy Secretary-International Affairs -01:**
Job Requirements: • Adequate knowledge in international business affairs • Preparation of Research Paper/Report/Statistical Data/Speech • Maintain liaison with diplomatic missions/Public and Private Office(s), trade delegation of home and abroad.

(b) **Deputy Secretary-Fiscal, Port-Shipping, Internal/Overseas Trade -01:**
Job Requirements: • Prepare & compile Trade and Economy related report/papers particularly Fiscal (Revenue, Custom, Duty, Income Tax, VAT) Port, Shipping • Internal/Overseas Trade & Investment related matters • Independently choose & organize National & International training/seminar/run foreign Partnership Project on contemporary local and global issues/needs including successful liaison with local/foreign partners.

(c) **Deputy Secretary-01:**
Job Requirements: • Knowledge and experience in • Event Management • Protocol & logistic support • Capable to choose/select/compile contents for news Bulletin/ Publications /Write-ups/Press matters/contact/liaison with public/ private/ relevant offices (home & abroad).

Academic Qualifications for (a+b): The incumbent(s) be an MBA/MA with 4 years honours degree in International Business/English/Economics from any noted public university (local and overseas), CGPA 3.00+ and 3.25+ on a 4.00 scale or 4.25+ and 4.50+ on a 5.00 scale would be treated as 2nd and 1st class respectively. For (c) in addition to the above, a Masters degree with honours (4 years) in Journalism.

Preferences: • Candidate(s) should be dynamic, devoted, hard working, sincere, self-motivated with leadership qualities to face/undertake any responsibility. • Good communication skill both in written & verbal (English & Bengali) • Skilled in Computer Literacy • Strong analytical ability • Fluency/ability to make correspondence independently in English and Bangla • Work under stress beyond office time • Experience will be an added advantage.

Selection Procedure: Eligible candidate will first appear at written test • Applicants qualifying at the written test will be called for viva voce interview • Selected candidate(s) will remain on probation for a minimum period of six months • On successful completion of the probationary period the incumbent(s) will be absorbed as Deputy Secretary as per existing practice of the Chamber • Age limit for all posts – within 40 years • Compensation Package will match the eligibility/experience of the candidate (as per existing payscale) • Persuasion in any form shall disqualify the candidature.

Application Procedure: Interested candidates are requested to apply with a signed resume, two copies of recent colour photographs and attested copies of all academic certificates and mark sheets addressing the Secretary within 24th January, 2011. The envelope shall be distinctly marked the post applied for. Only eligible candidates will be called for the written test. No TA/DA is admissible for appearing at the written/viva voce test.

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