

'Save Lalbagh Fort, Mohasthangarh'

No action to evict illegal structures despite High Court directive

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Poribesh Bachao Andolon (Poba) at a human chain yesterday demanded protection of the Lalbagh Fort in Dhaka and Mohasthangarh in Bogra.

Speakers said illegal high rises were constructed at the southwest side of the fort, which makes the heritage site unable to see.

Moreover different kinds of programmes including concert are being held inside the fort despite the High Court's directive to stop permitting those programmes there, they said.

The speakers alleged that the authorities concerned did not take any move to evict the illegal structures despite the HC order.

They also said the construction work at Mohasthangarh is going on destroying the

2,300-year-old artifacts of the site violating the HC order.

The artifacts being found during excavation at Mohasthangarh are destroyed, they told the human chain organised by Poribesh Bachao Andolon (Save Environment Movement) in front of the National Museum in the city yesterday.

Former dean of Buet, Saheda Rahman; convener of Oitijya Shongrakhan Parishad of the SEM, Prof Samsul Wares; Prof Dr Sayed Ahmed of Asia Pacific University; Prof Lala Rukh Selim of Dhaka University; president of Jatiya Puja Udjapon Samity, Kajol Debnath; Prof AKM Shahnewaj of Jahangirnagar University; Prof Mohammad Ali Noki of Stamford University; and SEM chairman Abu Narser Khan also spoke at the event.

Poribesh Bachao Andolan (Poba) forms a human chain in front of the National Museum in the city yesterday demanding that the Lalbagh Fort and Mohasthangarh heritage site be protected.



Photo: Star



PHOTO: STAR

A scene from a drama "Maati" being performed by Maitree Theatre on Central Shaheed Minar premises yesterday on the fourth day of weeklong Street Theatre Festival 2011 organised by The Daily Star and Bangladesh Pathanatak Parishad.

Godown, shops gutted in Ctg

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A godown, 12 timber shops and three semi-pucca houses worth Tk 75 lakh were damaged in separate incidents of fire in the port city yesterday.

Fire brigade sources said fire broke out in a godown of Sunman Group of Major (Retd) Abdul Mannan at Bayezid Bostami road under Bayezid Police Station at around 10:00 pm on Thursday, damaging fabrics, buttons, cables and other valuables worth of Tk 50 lakh.

The fire originated from an electric short circuit in the godown. On information, fire fighters from Bayezid and Agrabad units doused the flame in three hours of effort.

Meanwhile, twelve timber shops and three semi-pucca houses were gutted at Abhoy Mitra Ghat at Firingi Bazar under Kotwali Police Station in the city. Sources said the fire damaged valuables worth Tk 25 lakh.

Diesel electric train in two cities by 2014

Ecneec okays Tk 654.42 crore

UNB, DHAKA

The government has taken an initiative to launch Diesel Electric Multiple Unit (DEMU) train to reduce traffic congestion as well as to serve the commuters residing in and around the capital and the port city.

With this objective, the government will procure 20 sets (3 units in one set) DEMU train through which at least 6,000 commuters will be able to travel at a time. The DEMU train routes will be Dhaka-Gazipur, Dhaka-Narayanganj, Dhaka-Narsingdi and Chittagong-Feni.

The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (Ecneec) has recently approved a project titled 'Procurement of 20 sets (3 unit in one set) DEMU' at a cost of Tk 654.42 crore to be entirely borne from the government exchequer. The project is expected to be completed by June 2014.

According to sources at the Bangladesh Railway, the DEMU is a modern and fast train communication system, which will

unveil a new era in the country's rail communication.

At the same time, it is also expected to replace the existing slow engines of the trains apart from fulfilling the demand of fast running passenger trains on the Dhaka-Gazipur, Dhaka-Narayanganj, Dhaka-Narsingdi, and Chittagong-Feni routes.

Railway sources said each of the DEMU could carry 100 passengers so as a set with three bogies would be able to carry 300 passengers. These DEMU trains are being introduced in the other big cities of the world to meet the growing demand of transport.

The speed of such train can be accelerated and reduced more speedily compared to other conventional mail and express trains.

The DEMU train can be operated in both ways without the need to turn round the engines.

Economic Relations Division (ERD) sources said that assistance was sought earlier from China for financing the project.

Habiganj Jubo Dal man killed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

One person was stabbed to death during a clash between Awami Jubo League and Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal at village Murar Patli of Nabiganj upazila in Habiganj yesterday.

The dead was identified as Yusuf Ali, 30, a Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal activist and son of Nizamuddin.

Akhtar Hossain, officer-in-charge of Nabiganj police station, said both the groups used lethal weapons during the clash, leaving Yusuf injured critically. He was rushed to the Upazila Health Complex where the physicians declared him dead.

Police arrested injured Ayat Ali from Habiganj Sadar Hospital in this regard.

The clash was a sequel to the long-standing rivalry between the supporters of Kargaon BNP President Shahabuddin Shanti and Awami Jubo League President Abdul Quddus Sagar.

Tap forest resources effectively: Hasan

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

State Minister for Environment and Forests, Dr Hasan Mahmud, urged all to use forest resources effectively for combating the pressure of increasing population of the country.

He was speaking as the chief guest at a programme organised by Bangladesh Forest Research Institute (BFRI), Chittagong at its auditorium in the port city yesterday.

Dr Mahmud said two international standard research institutes including one in Chittagong would be established for fighting climate challenges.

Bangladesh is the first among the developing countries to have prepared an action plan for addressing the adverse impacts of climate change, said the minister.

According to him, the government does not await only foreign aid for the climate risk mitigation; rather it allocates sufficient money from its own fund.

Dr Mahmud said the BFRI, Chittagong, which is the only forest research institute in the country, will be developed as the most prestigious institute in the South Asian region.

Considering the human resources crisis in the BFRI, he assured that appointments will be made to the vacant posts.

Later, the minister inaugurated the port city's first green house on the premises of the institute. Dr Mahmud also planted a sapling of a rare species of Bamboo (*Dentocalamus Latiflorus*), which is popularly known as giant bamboo on the institute premises.

BFRI, Chittagong Director Dr Mokhlesur Rahman said 28 species of bamboo were in Bangladesh and with this one the number of the bamboo species stands at 29.

FF's rally in Ctg today

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Bangladesh Muktiyoddha Sangsad, Chittagong district unit will organise a rally of the freedom fighters at a community centre in the port city today.

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Syed Ashrafur Islam is scheduled to be present as the chief guest at the divisional grand rally.

Leaders of the Sangsad disclosed it at a press conference held in the Chittagong Press Club on Thursday.

Commander of the Sangsad Shahab Uddin in a written statement, said freedom fighters from the different districts of Chittagong division will join the grand rally.

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Eminent Gastroenterologist and Hepatologist Prof. Dr. Md. Muzibur Rahman Bhuiyan obtained FCPS (Medicine) in 1993 and MD (Gastroenterology) in 1998. In his prolific career of 25 years, along with Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University he worked in different Govt Medical Colleges and Hospitals. He received extensive clinical training from different globally acclaimed centres in USA, Europe, India, China and Singapore. He is vastly experienced in diagnosis of Intestinal Ulcer, Inflammation, Tumour (Polyp) and Bleeding; Bile duct stone, worm and cancer; Pancreatic stone & Inflammation and Piles through Endoscopy, Colonoscopy & ERCP and he provides non surgical treatment for these cases, if needed. He has attended & presented papers in various national & international seminars. He has more than 44 articles in various reputed medical journals to his credit. Recently, he has joined as Senior Consultant in Apollo Gastroenterology & Hepatology Department. Before joining Apollo Hospitals Dhaka, he worked in Anwer Khan Medical College & Hospital as Head of the department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology.

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