



Some environmental organisations form a human chain in front of Jatiya Press Club in the city yesterday protesting the plan to set up a coal-based thermal power station in Rampal, an upazila of Bagerhat, next to the Sundarbans.

PHOTO: STAR

Rampal plant threat to Sundarbans

Speakers tell rally

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Green activists yesterday expressed fear that the country's mangrove forest Sundarbans may fail to gain the status as a natural wonder of the world if the proposed coal-based thermal power station is set up in Rampal, Bagerhat.

They urged the authorities concerned to scrap the decisions of building the power station in Rampal and establishment of Chandpai Shipyard and a coal warehouse inside the Sundarbans.

The call came from a rally organised by several environmental organisations including Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon (Bapa), Centre for Human Rights Movement, and Save the Sundarbans in front of the Jatiya Press Club in the city.

The power station, if set up, will release toxic chemicals including Sulfur Dioxide, Nitrous Oxide, Carbon Monoxide, and CFC (chlorofluorocarbon) causing threat to the natural resources of the Sundarbans, said

Bapa joint secretary Shahjahan Mridha.

He also said people may lost their interest to vote for the Sundarbans as one of the seven natural wonders of the world if the structures are built inside and around the area Sundarbans.

Centre for Human Rights Movement secretary general M Mojahidul Islam Mujahid said the establishments will also cause destruction to the biodiversity and trees, and lead animal trafficking to increase.



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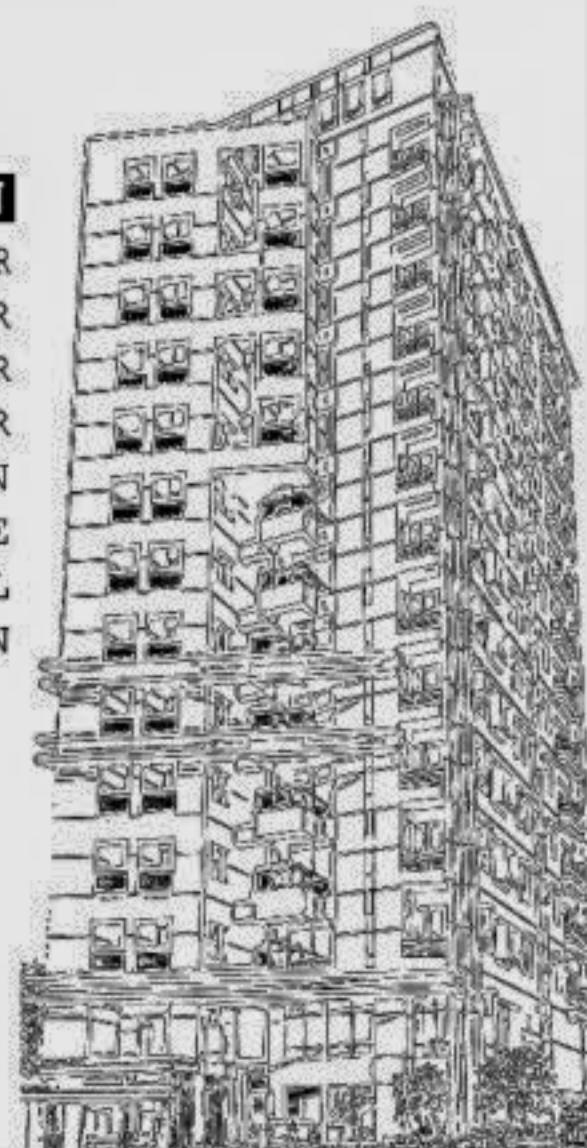
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Vote for Sundarbans

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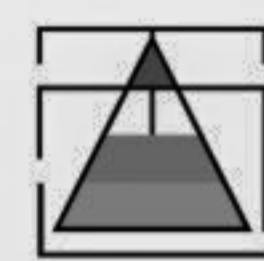
A three three-day campaign for the Sundarbans as a new natural wonder of the world began on Bangladesh University campus in the city yesterday, a press release said.

Chief Conservator of Forest Ishtiaq Uddin Ahmed inaugurated the campaign with Prof Md Golam Ali Fakir in the chair.

The speakers urged all students to take part in the campaign and vote for the mangrove forest.

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The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Foundation, Bangladesh

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- To promote the Programme to appropriate agencies, including education authorities, schools and other learning institutions and other agencies concerned with the development of young people.
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- To assist the National Board of Trustees for policy planning, strategic development and outcomes monitoring of the Award Programme.
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