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Graft spikes water crisis

Slum people pay 10 times more to Wasa cheats

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Five million poorest slum dwellers in the capital pay 10 times more than the official price of Dhaka Wasa water, said its former managing at a discussion yesterday.

Bangladesh Water Integrity Network organised the discussion on transparency and integrity in water supply in Dhaka city at Bangladesh Institute of Administration and Management in the city's New Eskaton.

People in the slums have no legal water supply connections and some unscrupulous middlemen collect water from legal connections to sell it in the slums, said Dr Khondker Azharul Haque, former managing director of Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (Wasa).

A middleman makes a monthly profit of Tk 40, 000 with a single illegal line while Dhaka slums have thousands of such unauthorised water connections, he told the meeting.

The water supplier suffers 30 percent production loss every year and one percent of the loss costs the company a damage of Tk 4.5 crore, said Azhar.

Metre tampering by dishonest customers with the connivance of corrupt Wasa employees is one of the key

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1



An infant suffering from diarrhoea lies in the bed of ICCDR, B in Dhaka yesterday. The city sees a soaring number of diarrhoea cases amid the summer heat over the last couple of weeks.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

It's rumour Govt press note on degradation of diploma engineers

UNB, Dhaka

The government has asked the polytechnic students not to be misled by any rumour over the downgrading the status of the diploma engineers.

The government noted with concern that the polytechnic students, misled by rumour of vested quarters, have been involved in ransacking, arson attack and clash with police at different

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

Punish Himu's killers

Demand schoolmates OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cig

Schoolmates and locals yesterday demanded exemplary punishment to the killers of A-level student Himadri Majumder Himu in the port city.

With the demand, students of Summerfield School and College formed a human chain at Prabartak intersection and brought out a protest procession from the school premises.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

FURNACE OIL SCAM Week wears off, nothing revealed

MID FAZLUR RAHMAN, from Cig

A week into the seizure of 3.4 lakh litres of furnace oil at Anu Majhir Ghat area in Sadarghat here, police are yet to make a major breakthrough in their investigation into the incident.

The law enforcers admitted that it would take some time to make headway in the probe as they were widening the scope of their investigation.

"The probe is going on. We are trying to identify the

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

At least 90 killed in Syria massacre

Opposition urges UN action; Annan plans visit

AFF, Damascus

Syrian regime forces have "massacred" more than 90 people, including 25 children, in the town of Houla, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said yesterday.

Deadly shelling on Friday continued late into the night, the Britain-based Observatory's Rami Abdel Rahman told AFP.

And nine more people killed in violence across the country yesterday as regime forces pounded rebel positions in central Homs province, the monitoring group reported.

The opposition Syrian National Council (NTC) has urged the UN Security Council to act urgently to stop the killings.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

Climate talks end in discord

Negotiations in Bonn stall with nations delaying tactics

GUARDIAN ONLINE

The latest round of international climate change talks finished on Friday in discord and disappointment, with some participants concerned that important progress made last year was being unpicked.

At the talks, countries were supposed to set out a workplan on negotiations that should result in a new

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1



PHOTO: STAR

Labourers process harvested paddy on the runway of abandoned Tangail airport yesterday. Farmers and labourers are spending busy hours in the district as it is the time for Boro harvest.

Tk 228cr project to free 3 rivers of pollution

BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) has designed a Tk 228 crore project to make the Buriganga, Turag and Shitalakhya rivers around the capital pollution-free.

"The proposed project is awaiting approval from the Executive Committee of National Economic Council [ECNEC]," BIWTA Chairman Shamsuddoha Khandaker said yesterday.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

Earliest music instruments found

BBC ONLINE

Researchers have identified what they say are the oldest-known musical instruments in the world.

The flutes, made from bird bone and mammoth ivory, come from a cave in southern Germany which contains early evidence for the occupation of Europe by modern humans - Homo sapiens.

Scientists used carbon dating to show that the

SEE PAGE 6 COL 5



The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited ONLINE POLL

Do you agree with US Human Rights Report 2011 that the security forces acted with impunity, the Rapid Action Battalion in particular?

Yes (89.1%)
No (8.7%)
No Comments (2.2%)

TOTAL VOTES: 366

TODAY'S POLL

Do you agree with the prime minister that next general election will be held in a neutral manner under the present government?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net

YOU MAY ALSO VOTE AT [facebook.com/dailystarnews](https://www.facebook.com/dailystarnews)

PRAYER TIMING May 27

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-05	4-40
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-40	6-45
Esha	8-00	8-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

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H.E. Sheikh Ahmad bin Mohammad bin Jabr Al-Thani
Assistant Minister for International Co-operation Affairs, State of Qatar

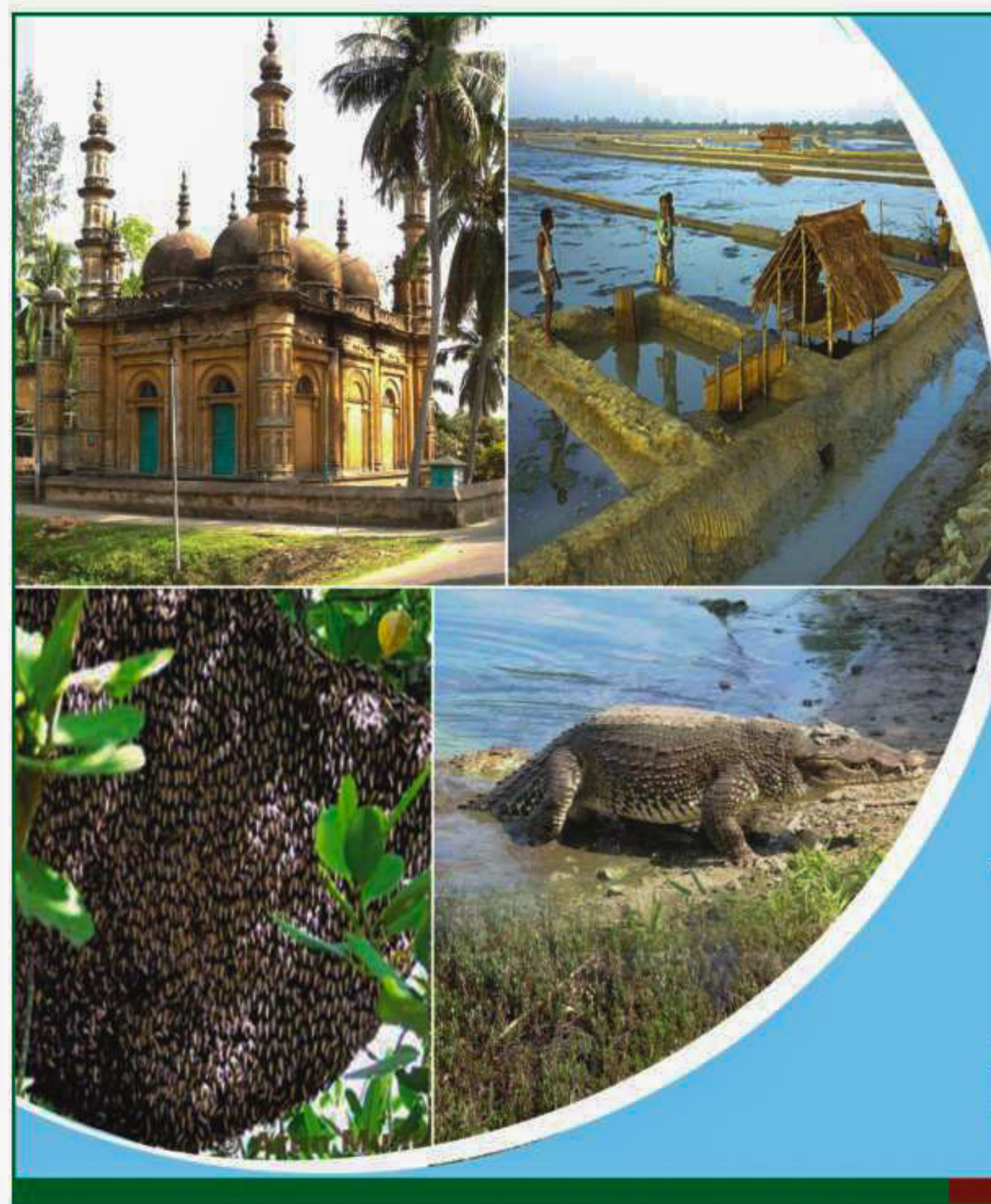
AND THE DELEGATION MEMBERS:

Mr. Ali Mohammad Al-Ris, Deputy Executive Chairman for policies of flight, Qatar Air Ways.
Mr. Ali Mohammad Al-Hamadi, Assistant Director, research and monetary policy, Qatar Central Bank.
Mr. Pawaj Abdul Aziz Saleh Al-Bakir, Project Director, Qatar Power and Water Company.
Mr. Abdulla Ahmad Ali Al-Sada, Department of Int'l Technical Cooperation.
Mr. Ahmad Mohammad Ali Al-Shaibani, Department of Int'l Technical Cooperation.
Mr. Ali mutlaq Al-Hagiri, Department of Asian Affairs.
Mr. Jasim Mohammad Al-Suaidi, Department of Protocol.
Mr. Mahmud Ata Mohammad Al-Abd, Secretary to Head of the Permanent Committee for organizing Conferences.

WE ALSO CONGRATULATE

H.E. Abdul Rahman Yousuf Al-Mulla, Ambassador of the State of Qatar in Dhaka.

BANGLADESH-QATAR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
Banani, Dhaka-1213.



দেশের সীমানা নদীর তিকানা যেথায় গিয়েছে হারিয়ে
রূপসী সুজলা সাতক্ষীরা সেথা বনানীর কোলে দাঁড়িয়ে

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আজ রবিবার ২৭ মে, ২০১২ইং

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শতভাগ রাষ্ট্র মালিকানাধীন ব্যাংক