



Movement of pedestrians and vehicles becomes difficult on South Matuail Medical Road in the capital due to waterlogging following incessant rainfall of the last few days. PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

CHT LAND DISPUTE RESOLUTION Amendment bill will fail to ensure adivasis' land rights

Claim ten political parties

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The proposed bill to amend a law relating to the land disputes resolution in the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) will not ensure the land rights of the indigenous people, as it excludes some important provisions, speakers said at a press conference yesterday.

ensure land rights of the indigenous people in the CHT region if it is not amended properly ignoring the proposal of the hill people," said Rashed Khan Menon, lawmaker and president of Workers Party of Bangladesh.

agreed to incorporate a 13-point proposal of the indigenous communities for the amendment of the CHT Land Dispute Resolution Commission Act 2001, but excluded some important proposed provisions. All the 13 points were approved by the CHT Accord Implementation Committee and adopted in an inter-ministerial meeting in July 2012, they said.

They said the word "practices" which would mean traditional land management methods of the indigenous people in the CHT and another phrase "occupied land" meaning land of indigenous people now occupied by others were missing in the draft law.

The amended law will not be able to resolve disputes involving more than 35 percent of land as almost 65 percent of the total CHT land belonging to the indigenous people is not occupied by Bangla-speaking people and different government agencies, he added.

Ten progressive political parties, including Workers Party of Bangladesh, Gonotontri Party, and Samyabadi Dal, organised the press conference at the capital's Hotel Sundarbans where senior leader Pankaj Bhattacharyya, president of Oikya NAP, read out a written speech on behalf of the parties.

The land rights of Adivasis, the key reason of conflicts in the CHT, will not be protected if those words remain missing in relevant clauses of the draft CHT Land Disputes Resolution Commission Act (Amendment) 2013, they added.

"The government's move will not

The draft of the act was passed in the cabinet on May 27, placed in parliament on June 17, and subsequently sent to the parliamentary standing committee on land for review.

এসেনসিয়াল ড্রাগ্‌স্‌ কোম্পানী লিমিটেড
৩৯৫-৩৯৭, তেজগাঁও শিল্প এলাকা
ঢাকা-১২০৮।

সংশোধনী

এসেনসিয়াল ড্রাগ্‌স্‌ কোম্পানী লিমিটেড (ইডিসিএল) কর্তৃক আহ্বানকৃত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং- ইডিসিএল / ত্রয় / স্থানীয় / দরপত্র / ২০১৩ / ৩৯৭ তারিখ ২৪/০৬/২০১৩ ইং নিম্নরূপ সংশোধন করা হল।

দরপত্র গ্রহণ ও খোলার তারিখ ০৮/০৭/২০১৩ এর পরিবর্তে ০৩/০৭/২০১৩ হবে।

দরপত্রের অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী অপরিবর্তিত থাকবে।

উপ-মহাব্যবস্থাপক
প্রাণি এন্ড প্রকিউরমেন্ট বিভাগ
পক্ষে ঃ ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক।

Obituary

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

Abdul Jalil, founder principal of Pirob United Degree College, died in Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Medical College Hospital on Saturday. He was 73. He left behind his wife, a son and a daughter. He was buried on the college campus.

Death anniversary

CITY DESK

Today is the third death anniversary of Fazlul Karim Majumder, former vice-principal of Comilla Victoria Government College.

On the occasion, prayers will be offered today at a village in Hajiganj and also at his Comilla Housing Estate residence tomorrow after Asr prayers.

Fazlul, father of Tarek Mahmud who is a special correspondent of the Bangla daily Prothom Alo,

Zahur Ahmed Chy
STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Today is the 39th death anniversary of Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury, a former minister and one of the founders of Awami League.

He was also the chairman of the eastern zone during the Liberation War in 1971.

Different Socio-cultural and Political organisations have organised different programmes, says a press release.

Five to die for raping girl in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A Chittagong court yesterday gave death sentence to five persons in a case over raping a girl after abduction in Banshkhalia upazila of the district.

Judge Md Rezaul Karim of Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal-1 passed the order as the charge against the accused was proved beyond any doubt before the tribunal, said Public Prosecutor Chandan Talukder.

The convicts are Rashid Ahmed, son of Kabir Ahmed; Nurul Absar, son of Harunur Rashid; Md Nasair, son of Rashid Ahmed; Kabir Ahmed, son of Amir Hamza; and Md

Kenu, son of Mafjal Ahmed. They all are hailing from East Chhambal of Banshkhalia.

According to the case statement, on April 11, 1997, the convicts abducted the girl after tying her mother with rope in their house. After raping the girl, they left her at a nearby hill.

Victim's mother lodged the case with Banshkhalia Police Station accusing the five on April 12, 1997.

Police submitted the charge sheet accusing the five before a Chittagong court on August 24, 1997 and the tribunal framed charges against them on August 10, 1998.

The tribunal delivered the verdict after taking testimonies from 11 prosecution and defence witnesses, said the PP.

DU to observe founding anniversary today

DU CORRESPONDENT

With a focus on promoting the spirit of the Liberation War, Dhaka University is set to observe its 92nd founding anniversary today.

Starting off with just 847 students in three faculties and 12 departments in 1921, the university now boasts a total of 47,827 students and 1,809 teachers in 72 departments under 13 faculties.

The festivities will begin at Mall Chattar where students, teachers and the university staff will cut a cake and bring out a procession, which will end at the Teacher-Student Centre (TSC).

Football matches, debate, concert, discussions and photo and manuscript exhibi-

tion, among other programmes, have also been organised.

The academic buildings will be decorated with lights as a symbol of the university's aim to spread quality higher education to develop the country socio-economically.

No classes and examinations will be held today but the offices will remain open.

DU VC Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique said Dhaka University must play a bigger role if Bangladesh is to be turned into a nation of free thinkers imbued with the spirit of the Liberation War.

DU began observing the day from 1983 in a bid to introduce an alternative culture on the campus replacing "rag day" as well as to mark the beginning of the university.

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মোবাইল : ০১৫৫২৩০৯০৭/০১৭১৫৩৬২২৭

KHAN BAHADUR AHSANULLAH RESEARCH GRANT
Applications are invited for Khan Bahadur Ahsanullah Research Grant 2013. The research grant will be offered to an established scholar to pursue original research on *Bengali Muslims' Contributions to Independence during the British Rule*. The research report will be published by the Asiatic Society of Bangladesh. Applications must reach the following address in triplicate along with detailed research proposal, CV and a passport size photograph by 18 August 2013.
Secretary
Asiatic Society of Bangladesh
5, Old Secretariat Road, Nimtali, Ramna, Dhaka-1000
Phone: 9576391. E-mail: asiaticsociety.bd@gmail.com

JUSTICE MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM GOLD MEDAL 2013
Applications are invited from Bangladeshi scholars for Justice Muhammad Ibrahim Gold Medal 2013. Books or monographs in English or Bangla in any field of Law, Humanities and Liberal Arts published during 1 January 2011 - 30 June 2013 will be considered for award. Publications awarded elsewhere will not be considered. Applications must reach the following address along with 3 copies of publications, CV and photographs of the applicants by 31 August 2013.
Secretary
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