

Nasim assures flood victims of protection

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Health Minister Mohammad Nasim assured the flood victims in Cox's Bazar and Bandarban of taking adequate measures from the government to protect them.

Nasim made the assurance while giving a statement in parliament in the wake of the death of 10 people in landslides and flash floods triggered by torrential rain in the two districts.

"There is nothing to be worried. We have taken necessary measures to ensure medicare facilities for the flood victims," the minister said, adding that the health officials were visiting the affected areas, and leave of the local doctors, nurses and other health related staff and officials had been cancelled.

Nasim informed the House that emergency medical teams were ready with necessary medicines and other materials for the treatment of flood-hit victims.

He urged the victims to preserve safe drinking water and shelter in safer places.

Appeal for help

STAR REPORT



A 10-year-old boy Sourov Sikder, only son of Govinda Chandra Sikder of Madaripur, has been undergoing treatment for cancer at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University for a long time.

Surov's father has already spent a lot of money for his treatment, selling their properties. But now he is unable to bear his further treatment cost.

The family has requested all for financial aid which can be sent to Govinda Chandra Sikder at account number- 100033065, Rupali Bank, Taan Savings Bazar Branch, Narayanganj. Govinda's mobile number is 01772321252.



At least 14 environmental and social organisations form a human chain at Lalbagh Fort in Dhaka yesterday demanding a stop to making way for a car park at the heritage site after knocking down a portion of the boundary wall of the more than three centuries old Mughal fort.

PHOTO: STAR

Govt's political will key to protecting environment

Prothom Alo roundtable told

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government's political will and coordination among the ministries are key to implementing national policies and plans to protect the environment, said experts yesterday.

They opined that the country has sufficient laws, policies and plans for protecting the environment, but those are not successful due to poor implementation.

They were addressing a roundtable titled "Let's protect environment-built golden Bangladesh", organised by Prothom Alo in association with Standard Chartered Bank at the Bangla daily's office.

"Our environment is endangered. We know our problems but we cannot get solutions until the government's political will is ensured," said hydrologist Ainun Nishat.

He also criticised the government for the lack of coordination among the ministries in implementing the national plan of actions.

Land grabbing, water pollution and deforestation are the major reasons behind environmental degradation, said Nishat,

also professor emeritus of Brac University, adding that the perpetrators are so powerful that they remain untouched.

Another environmental expert, Dr Atiq Rahman, said development activities of Bangladesh can be termed economic and infrastructure development.

"But we want environmental development; the ministries should work together in this regard," he said.

Prof ATM Nurul Amin of North South University suggested construction of more footpaths to encourage people to walk, which will cut down fuel consumption.

Chief Conservator of Bangladesh Forest Department Yunus Ali said representatives of local government institutions, government officials and the general public must work together for protection of the environment.

Prof Khandker Sabbir Ahmed of Buet; Ishtiaq Uddin Ahmed, Bangladesh country director of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN); and officials of Standard Chartered Bank, World Bank and UNDP, among others, attended the function.

Road crashes kill 4

CITY DESK

Four people were killed in road accidents in three districts yesterday.

In Nilphamari, two motorcyclists were killed when a truck hit a motorcycle at Boroghat on Jaldhaka-Rangpur road in Jaldhaka upazila.

The deceased were Dulal Hossain, 27, of Burimari Dangapara village and his co-rider Zakir Hossain, 30, of Baura village.

In Mymensingh, Musleh Uddin, 53, of Paragaon village was killed when a truck hit him in Mehrabari area on Dhaka-Mymensingh highway in Bhaluka upazila.

In Dinajpur, Dulal Hossain, 50, of Motihara village was killed when a bus hit his motorcycle near Bhaduria Bazar in Nawabganj upazila.

NEWS IN brief



Mostafa Kamal Motaleb Khan Moslem Mian

Kamal president, Moslem secy of newspaper hawkers union

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Mostafa Kamal and Moslem Mian have been elected president and secretary of the managing committee of Dhaka Newspaper Hawkers Multipurpose Cooperatives Union Ltd.

Motaleb Khan was elected vice president in yesterday's election while Golam Rasul, Akhter Hossain, Amir Hossain, Joyal Abedin (1), Joyal Abedin (2), Sharif Hossain, Imam Hossain, Peyar Ahammad and Nurul Hadi members, says a press release.

Muggers shoot dead man in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A man was shot dead after being mugged by miscreants in the capital's Kalabagan early yesterday.

The victim, Obaidul Haq, 36, an employee of Anwara Group, was returning home from work by a rickshaw around 12:10am when three muggers on a motorcycle waylaid him, said rickshaw puller Jahangir Hossain.

They took away his mobile phone and a bag of valuables and then shot him in the head, he added.

A case was filed.

Habibe Millat elected IPU adviser

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladeshi lawmaker Habibe Millat has been elected a member of the advisory committee for HIV/AIDS and Maternal, New Born and Child Health of Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU), says a press release.

There are representatives from 12 countries including Canada, India, Italy, and Sweden in the committee.

Dr Millat, an Awami League lawmaker from Sirajganj-2, is also a member of the parliamentary standing committee for social welfare ministry.

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