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Worries over Rampal plant

South Asian human rights activists call for independent environmental study

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The South Asians for Human Rights, a regional network of rights activists, yesterday urged the government to suspend construction and other activities of Rampal plant near the Sundarbans until a comprehensive Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is conducted by independent and impartial experts.

It said the government should relocate the coal-fired power plant to an environmentally sustainable site if its effects on the Sundarbans are found damaging.

SAHR, a regional body of rights activists from Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Nepal, Maldives and Afghanistan, came up with its views on the project at the launching of "Report of the fact-finding mission to Rampal, Bangladesh".

Prof Abdullah Harun Chowdhury of Khulna University and green activist Sharif Jamil from Bangladesh and Sagar Dhar and Nityanand Jayaraman from India was on the factfinding mission from April 5 to 11, visiting the project site and adjacent areas and talking to locals, affected villagers, government officials and policy makers.

The 43-page report detailed key human concerns and the flaws of the EIA approved by the Department of Environment on August 2013 with 59 conditions attached. SEE PAGE 17 COL 1



English medium school students and their guardians form a human chain on Saat Masjid Road in the capital's Dhanmondi around 11:00am yesterday, demanding withdrawal of 7.5 percent VAT on tuition fees. Later on, the HC stayed the collection of VAT for six months.

RASHED SHUMON



UN GEN ASSEMBLY PM goes to New York on Sept 23

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will leave for New York on September 23 to attend the United Nations special summit on sustainable development and the 70th session of the UN General Assembly.

She would highlight Bangladesh's success stories in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) implementation as well as priority areas of successfully completing the new set of 17 Sustainable

SEE PAGE 17 COL 5

SALIMULLAH ORPHANAGE HC orders confiscation of apartment building

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The High Court yesterday ordered confiscation of the 18-storey tower built by Concord Group on the land of Sir Salimullah Muslim Orphanage in the capital's Azimpur area. The HC directed the

Group to handover ownership of the building and the land to the orphanage in 30 days. Otherwise, the government will take over its possession on behalf of the orphanage.

SEE PAGE 17 COL



Man held with 4,200 turtles

They were kept for smuggling

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

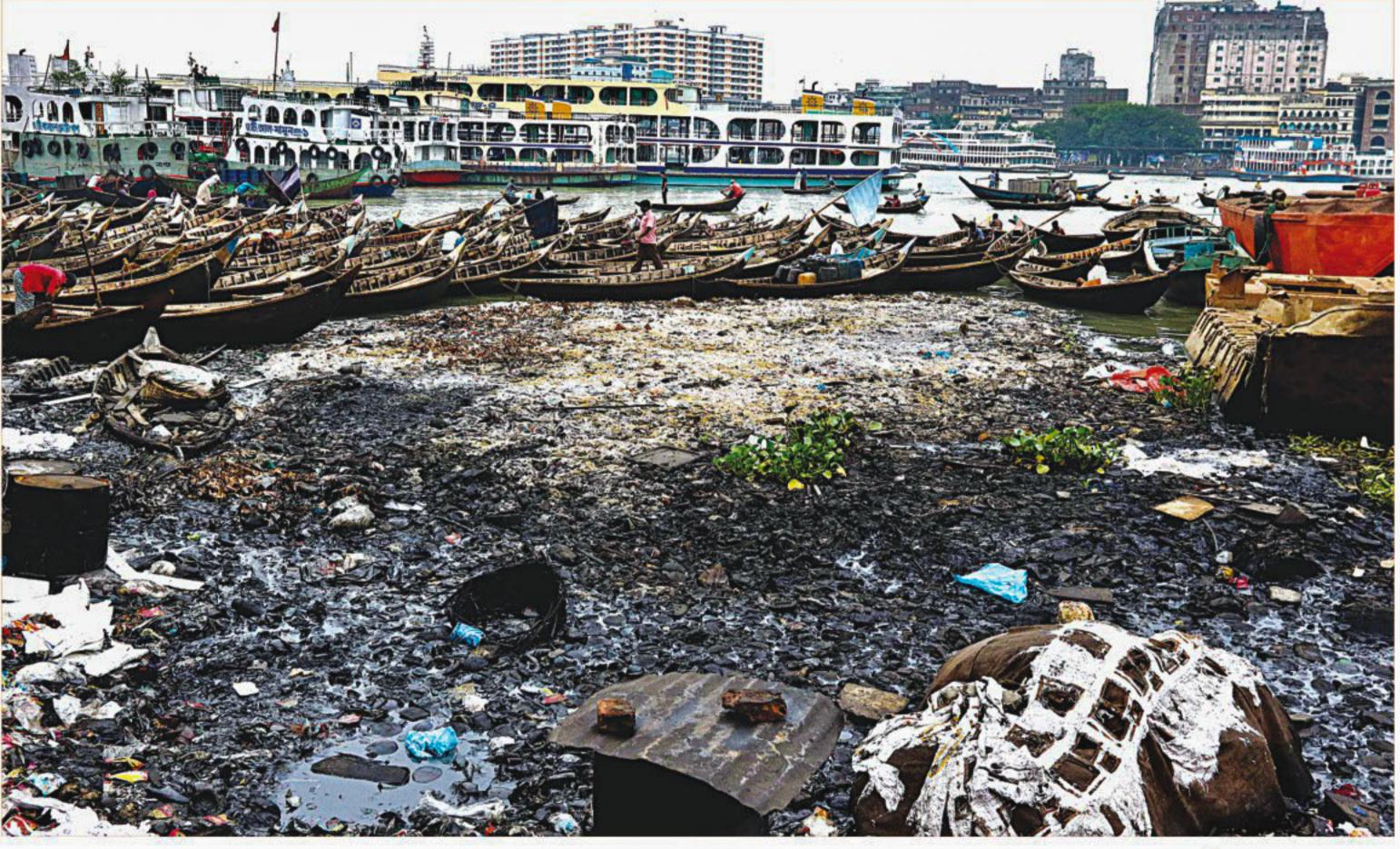
The Department of Forest and Rapid Action Battalion in a joint drive recovered 4,200 turtles from a house in the city's Uttara area yesterday. One Hafiz Uddin was also arrested from the house during the raid.

Salma Aktar, inspector of Wildlife Crime Control Unit of the forest department, said the turtles were brought to Dhaka for smuggling. Those were collected from across the country and from India. Acting on a tip-off, the forest department and Rab-1 raided the house in

Uttara's Dakkhin Khan area around 7:00pm and recovered the turtles and arrested Hafiz. Later, a mobile court sentenced the arrestee to one year in prison and

fined him Tk 50,000. The seized turtles are of four species -- 1,800 pieces are Tricarinate hill turtle, 1,600 Indian pond turtle, 500 star turtle and 300 Indian roofed turtle, Salma said.

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The bank of the Buriganga at Kamrangirchar, on the outskirts of the capital, has turned pitch-black due to unabated dumping of garbage and waste engine oil from vessels. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

OIL TANKER BLAST '176 killed' in South Sudan

AGENCIES

More than 176 people were killed in South Sudan when an oil truck exploded as a crowd tried to gather fuel from the vehicle after it had veered off the road, a regional official said yesterday, a day after the incident.

At least 50 people are reported to have been injured. Local hospitals have been overwhelmed, and state officials SEE PAGE 17 COL 5

Cop, detainee killed as police van catches fire

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two people, including a policeman, were killed and eight others injured as a microbus carrying a DB team and detainees caught fire after an iron-laden truck hit it at Chauddagram in Comilla Wednesday night.

Abdul Aziz, 34, a constable of the Detective Branch, Dhaka Metropolitan

Police (DMP), died on the spot while 50year-old Shawkat who had been picked up during an anti-narcotics operation in Chittagong died of his injuries at the burn unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday, said police and hospital sources.

Other members of the DB team -- Subinspector Abdul Malek, 35, and constables Anwar Hossain, 38, Shariful Islam, 42, and SEE PAGE 17 COL 1



AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL

Unmanned towers on trial in US

BBC ONLINE

Airports are increasingly using unmanned air traffic control towers - relying on technology rather than humans to do a highly specialised job.

A remote system has just been rolled out in Leesburg Executive Airport in Virginia. Sweden's Ornskoldsvik airport has had the same system which uses cameras and sensors - since April this year.

The technology could revolutionise air traffic services, according to the UK's National Air Traffic Service (Nats).

The remote system - designed by Swedish

SEE PAGE 17 COL 4



planning, that the VAT on tuition fees of English medium schools is justified? Yes

TOTAL VOTES: 93 TODAY'S POLL Do you think all the industry owners would respond to the govt.'s call to pay Eid bonus to their workers by Sunday and paid the salary for 15 days of the current month?

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SEPTEMBER 18 Fazr Juma Asr Maghrib Esha AZAN 4-35 12-30 4-30 6-14 7-45 JAMAAT 5-10 1-15 4-45 6-17 8-15

Australian Academy of Business Leadership and Uttara University Jointly Announce

Dhaka International Business and Social Sciences Research Conference (DIBSSRC) 2016

> Dates: 20 - 22 January 2016 Conference Venue: To be announced Conference Web: www.aabl.com.au/dhaka-conference

Key Conference People



Prof. Dr. M. Azizur Rahman Prof. Dr. Eaysmin Ara Lekha Vice Chancellor Pro-Vice Chancellor Uttara University Uttara University



Nicholas McDonald Conference Manager President, AABL

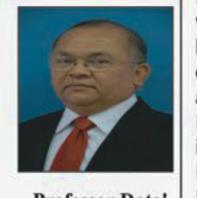


Professor Dato' Dr. Che Musa Che Omar Prof. of Management (Tourism) & Head of Research and Innovation, Universiti Kuala Lumpur (UniKl)

Contact in Bangladesh: Dr. Nazrul Islam

Dean, School of Business Uttara University, Dhaka, Bangladesh & Convener, Organizing Committee DIBSSRC 2016

Email:nazrulku@gmail.com, nazrulislam@uttarauniversity.edu.bd



Business School, Malaysia

Science Research Conference (DIBSSRC) is going to be arranged during 20-22 January 2016 in association with Australian Academy of Business Leadership (AABL) and Universiti Kuala Lumpur Malaysia. AABL is a research organization engaged in empirical research training, publishing of international journals and organizing

Uttara University is very pleased to announce that "Dhaka International Business & Social

International Conferences at the different parts of the world. As a part of AABL global conference initiatives, it will organise DIBSSRC 2016 in Dhaka, Bangladesh, where Uttara University will play its role as host and co-organizer. The objective of this conference is 'Networking and Collaboration among the Scholars in Various Fields of Research'. Major tracks of this conference include Accounting, Corporate Social Responsibility, Finance Banking, Entrepreneurship, Economics, Econometrics, Education, Information Technology, Islamic Finance and Sharia, Law, Management, Marketing, Social Business, Tourism and Multidisciplinary

Important Dates

Abstract Due 18 October 2015 Notification of Acceptance 25 October 2015 Full Paper Submission Deadline 9 November 2015 Early Bird Registration Deadline 9 November 2015 Late Registration Deadline 6 December 2015 20-22 January 2016 Conference Dates







