



PHOTO: STAR

Like many others in the district, this brick kiln operating in a forest area of Bandarban Sadar upazila makes illegal use of firewood for burning bricks, causing harm to environment and human health.

Firewood-based brick kilns pose threat to hill forests

SANJOY KUMAR BARIJA, Bandarban

With the start of brick making season, dozens of illegal brick kilns have started operation inside the forests and woodlands in the district, despite a statutory restriction from the authorities concerned. These kilns use firewood collected from the forests, including those declared 'reserved' by the government, to burn bricks, posing serious threat to human health and natural environment but the local adminis-

tration is yet to take any noticeable action to check the menace. Defying environmental law, about 50 kilns have recently started operation in Lama, Alikadom, Thanchi, Naikkongchhari and Sadar upazilas of the district, local sources said. Mohammad Islam, a local BNP leader, Lakshmi Pada Das, a local Awami League (AL) leader and member of Bandarban Hill District Council and Md Jasim Uddin, another AL man, admitted brick manu-

facturing by using firewood in dense forest areas. They claimed to have licenses for the business, but failed to show any documents to support it. On an average, around 200 maunds of wood are daily used in each of these brick kilns, built mostly near primary schools, agricultural lands and forests. Thus the 50 illegal brick kilns burn around 10,000 maunds of wood daily. It has been alleged that brick manufacturers often collect wood with the con-

nivance of a section of unscrupulous forest officials. Rafiqul Islam Chowdhury, divisional forest officer of Lama Forest Division, said a few officials of his department might have link with the illegal brick kiln owners. Bandarban Deputy Commissioner Mizanul Haque Chowdhury admitted that most of the brick kilns in the district are operating illegally. "We have instructed officials to see that no one can collect or burn wood to operate brick kilns."

AL men beat up cop

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

A police official was beaten up allegedly by some Awami League (AL) activists at Kabilpur Bazar in Chaugachha upazila under Jessore district on Sunday night. Sub-inspector Jasimuddin was beaten up after he arrested AL activist M Mohsin and recovered some Yaba pills from his possession at Kabilpur Bazar around 8:00pm. The AL men also poured kerosene on his body. Some policemen rushed to the spot and rescued him, said locals. SI Jasimuddin told newsmen that he was humiliated by Mohsin and his men after recovering some Yaba pills from Mohsin's possession. Mohsin is a drug dealer, he added. The police arrested Sahikul and Alamgir of the locality in connection with the attack on the policeman.

3 held on charge of killing classmate in Pabna

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Three students of Ataikula High School in Ataikula upazila of the district were arrested early Sunday on charge of killing classmate Shakil Akhter. The arrestees are Md Tutul Hossain, Md Shaon and Md Belal Hossain of Ataikula Modhupur village. They are Class IX students. The trio called Shakil Akhter, son of Babul Hossain of Modhupur village, out of his house on Friday night and then strangled him. Police recovered his body from a field near his house on Saturday morning. Victim's father filed a case with Ataikula Police Station, accusing Shakil's classmates Tutul, Shaon and Belal, on Saturday night. Shakil was in a love with

Shompa Khatun, a student of the same class, which caused the enmity with the arrestees, according to police and family sources. Md Nure Alam Siddique, officer-in-charge of Ataikula Police Station, said police arrested the three accused raiding different areas of the village early Sunday. Away in Mymensingh, police are yet to arrest any of the stalkers, who allegedly killed the father of schoolgirl in Muktagachha municipality area on Friday, reports our correspondent. Md Ainuddin, 45, a day labourer from Syedpara area under the municipality, was found dead by the roadside in the area early Friday. Victim's family members alleged, one Katu Mia, 26, of the area and his friends Dipu, Ashu, Taher, Rakib

and Lal Mia used to stalk Ainuddin's daughter, a Class V student of a local primary school, on her way to and from school. The stalkers threatened the family to face dire consequences when Ainuddin protested it. When Ainuddin along with his wife and daughter was returning from a relative's house on Thursday afternoon, Katu and his accomplices intercepted the three and hurled abuse at them. Victim's cousin Monir Hossain Monu, president of ward No-8 unit of Awami League, said that the three went back to their relative's house, fearing attack. When Ainuddin was returning home alone around 2:00am, Katu and his accomplices strangled him, Monu said.

Female workforce rising rapidly

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2021, shows the Population and Housing Census 2011 of the BBS. In 2011, female labour force accounted for a little more than one-seventh of the total workforce of 41 million. The BBS launched the census report at a ceremony in the capital's Sonargaon Hotel yesterday. The census data is available on the BBS official website. The number of youths aged between 15 and 29 now stands at 44.4 million, which will go up to 50.8 million by 2026. The growth rate will gradually decline, and the number will drop to 40.2 million in 2061, according to a BBS projection. It observes the country has not yet been fully successful in reaping the benefits of demographic dividend, and that investment is needed in education and human capital development. The BBS projects that the country's population could be 251.45 million or 223.39 million or 209.42 million in 2061 under high, medium and low variant fertility assumption. In 2011, the population was 149.8 million, which

will reach 160.2 million next year, it says. "A sharp increase of urban population has been depicted in all three scenarios, more specifically, urban population in 2061 will be more than twofold from that of the base year 2011," says the BBS, stressing the need for a plan to handle the growth. The BBS compared the 2011 census data with the previous ones to weigh up what challenges population density and vulnerability will pose to the country's sustainable development. Bangladesh's most densely populated district is Dhaka followed by Narayanganj. Dhaka, Chittagong, Sylhet, Rangpur and Mymensingh are highly vulnerable because of high density, shows BBS analysis. The BBS also made an observation on nuptial age. "Although the legal age of marriage in Bangladesh is 18 years, but this study found that almost half of all marriages take place before the legal age," it says. The BBS says poverty significantly retards international migration and suggests that the government play an active role in this regard. The census revealed that

the prevalence of disability is higher among the elderly than the young and in males than females. Disability contributes to a higher divorce rate in addition to being an impediment to marriage. The BBS monograph shows that significant disparity exists between urban and rural areas in terms of literacy rate, among different administrative divisions of the country and between the poor and non-poor. In another monograph, the BBS indicates that the fertility rate in the districts of Chittagong and Sylhet divisions are higher than other districts. These divisions have high number of population in the lower age group (0-4 and 5-9). As per the 2011 census, the percentage of the elderly is 7.7 in the total population, and among all divisions, the number of elderly is the highest in Barisal. The BBS recommends that public programmes, including pension schemes and national healthcare systems, should be enhanced both in terms of size and coverage. It has also updated upazila-level Small Area Atlas of 1984 and population

details of the 2011 census. Planning Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal, Senior Secretary of Planning Commission Dr Shamsul Alam, Ambassador of European Union Pierre Mayaudon, UNFPA Representative Argentina Matavel Piccin, Secretary of Statistics and Information Division Kaniz Fatema and BBS Director General Mohammad Abdul Wazed were present at the launching ceremony. Barisal woman commits suicide First tries to kill daughter OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal A woman committed suicide by hanging herself from the ceiling after she tried to kill her five-year-old daughter in Kawnia Branch Road area of Barisal city yesterday. The deceased Lipi Biswas, 20, wife of Binod Biswas, was mentally sick, said police. Locals said they rushed to Lipi's house hearing her daughter Barsha's scream as Lipi was trying to hang the child with a rope. When they went outside the house after rescuing the girl, Lipi killed herself.

Mother with kid commits suicide

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

A woman cradling her two-year-old daughter allegedly committed suicide by jumping under a running train near Monu Railway Station in Kulaura upazila of the district yesterday. The deceased are Jahanara Begum, 30, wife of Masadder Ali of Kotarkuna village in the upazila, and her daughter Emma. Quoting witnesses, police said Jahanara dived under the wheels of Sylhet-bound intercity train 'Udayan Express' holding her daughter while it was crossing the area around 8:00am. The duo died instantly. Officer-in-Charge Ektiar Uddin Chowdhury of Srimangal Police Station said they suspect that Jahanara might have committed suicide with her kid over a family feud.

Fratricide

UNB, Laxmipur

A youth was killed allegedly by his elder brother over a trivial matter at Bhatialpur village in Ramganj upazila of the district on Sunday. The deceased was identified as Mohammad Alam, 30, son of late Syed Ahmed. Quoting victim's family members, police said Alam locked in an altercation with his brother Nur Alam over destroying a betel-nut sapling at his orchard on Sunday evening. At one stage, Nur stabbed Alam with, leaving him critically injured, Officer-in-Charge Md Tota Mia of Ramganj Police Station said. Alam was rushed to Ramganj Upazila Health Complex and then shifted to Noakhali Apollo Hospital as his condition deteriorated. He died at the hospital around 9:30pm, police added.

Factory waste pollutes canal in Habiganj

Bapa, locals demand action against polluters

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon (Bapa) yesterday urged Habiganj district administration to take punitive action against Maar Limited (Maize Advanced Agro Refinery) as chemical waste from its factory is polluting nearby Ekhtiar canal, which links to the Meghna River. A team led by Sharif Jamil, joint secretary of Bapa, visited the spot in Shahpur area of Madhabpur upazila and saw the chemi-

cal waste of the factory seeping into the land and flowing into the nearby canal. The team members talked with locals, who have been agitating for long, demanding closure of the factory as it is dumping chemical waste illegally. They later met Deputy Commissioner Sabina Alam and urged her take steps to stop dumping of chemical waste by the factory. On December 12, factory workers clashed with locals,

who were staging a demonstration near the factory, protesting dumping of chemical waste. Eight people were injured and five vehicles and 10 motorbikes were damaged in the clash. Contacted, Syed Akhtar Hossain, managing director of Maar Limited, said the factory is installing an effluent treatment plant. On December 12, some criminals, equipped with sharp weapons and sticks attacked the factory, causing a loss of around Tk 25 lakh,



PHOTO: STAR

Untreated chemical waste from an agro refinery at Shahpur in Madhabpur upazila under Habiganj district badly pollutes Ekhtiar canal leading to the Meghna River, in addition to affecting local farmlands.

Trucks, tank lorries on strike in Sylhet

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Truck, covered-van and tank lorry drivers and helpers went on an indefinite strike in Sylhet district yesterday, protesting alleged extortion and harassment by police. Trucks, oil tankers and covered vans went off the roads in the district at 6:00am.

District Transport Workers' Union, Truck and Covered-van Workers' Union and Tank-lorry Workers' Union jointly took the decision at a meeting held on Sunday night. District bus workers' union yesterday decided to join the strike from this morning. Abdus Salam, acting

president of district transport workers' union, said transport workers are often detained on false charges and harassed by the highway police in the name of checking licence. Salam said that they would continue their strike until the issues were resolved.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Department of Archaeology
 Office of the Regional Director, Chittagong Division, Comilla
 www.comilla.archaeology@yahoo.com

Memo No: 43.23.1900.129.067.006.15/80 Dates: 13-12-2015

Invitation for Tender

1.	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Cultural Affairs.				
2.	Agency	Department of Archaeology, Chittagong Division, Comilla.				
3.	Procuring entity	Regional Director, Department of Archaeology.				
4.	Procuring entity code	4991, 6827, 6821, 4931.				
5.	Procuring entity district	Comilla.				
6.	Invitation for	Procurement of works/supply of goods.				
7.	Invitation Ref. No.	Memo No: 43.23.1900.129.067.006.15/				
8.	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (OTM).				
9.	Budget and source of funds	GOB.				
10.	Project/program code (applicable)	3431, 3496				
11.	Project/program name (applicable)	PPNB for Conservation and Development of Shalbon Vihara and Adjacent Monuments at Mainamoti and Regular Annual Repair work Comilla.				
12.	Tender package No.	01/2015-16.				
13.	Tender package date	13-12-2015.				
14.	Tender publication date (within)	15-12-2015.				
15.	Tender last selling date	30-12-2015 up to office hours.				
16.	Tender submission date	31-12-2015 at 12.00 noon.				
17.	Tender opening date and time	31-12-2015 at 3.00pm.				
18.	Address of selling tender document	(a) Office of the Regional Director, Department of Archaeology, Mukta Mohal, Nababbari, Chowmohani, Comilla. (b) Office of the Custodian, Mainamoti, Museum, Comilla.				
19.	Receiving tender document	(a) Office of the Regional Director, Department of Archaeology, Mukta Mohal, Nababbari, Chowmohani, Comilla. (b) Office of the Custodian, Mainamoti, Museum, Comilla.				
20.	Tender opening and evaluation office	Office of the Regional Director, Department of Archaeology, Mukta Mohal, Nababbari, Chowmohani, Comilla.				
21.	Eligibility of tenderer	Experience in construction works and supply of goods in last 5 years in a single contract and as per TDS.				
22.	Lot No.	Identification of supply of goods/works	Location	Price of tender document in Tk.	Tender security amount in Tk	Completion time in days
	1.	Supply of goods for Conservation work of Shalbon Vihara, Mainamoti, Comilla (2015-16).	Mainamoti, Comilla	1000/-	56,000/-	15 days
	2.	Supply of goods for Conservation work of Ananda Vihara, Comilla Cantonment (2015-16).	Mainamoti, Comilla	1000/-	58,000/-	15 days
	3.	Supply of goods for Conservation work of Voj Vihara, Mainamoti, Comilla (2015-16).	Mainamoti, Comilla	1000/-	42,000/-	15 days
	4.	Supply of goods for Conservation work of Satara Ratna, Temple Jagannath Bari, Comilla (2015-16).	Jagannath Bari, Comilla	500/-	29,000/-	15 days
	5.	Installation of 20KVA, 400V, electric generator at Mainamoti Museum, Comilla (2015-16)	Mainamoti, Comilla	500/-	30,000/-	90 days
	6.	Supply of Furniture for Mainamoti Museum office at Comilla (2015-16).	Mainamoti, Comilla	750/-	35,000/-	60 days
	7.	Annual repair of Mainamoti Museum and development work at Comilla (2015-16)	Mainamoti, Comilla	1000/-	75,000/-	90 days
23.	Name and designation of official invitation tender	Md. Mizanur Rahman, Regional Director, Phone No: 081-76211.				
24.	Address of official inviting tender	Regional Director, Department of Archaeology, Chittagong Division, Mukta Mohal, Nababbari, Chowmohani, Comilla.				
25.	Special instructions: 1. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders. 2. At the time of purchase of tender the tenderers must show all the original relevant documents including papers in support of eligibility. 3. All procurement activities must be maintained by "The Public Procurement Regulations-2008". 4. In under any unavoidable circumstances tender document selling, receiving and opening are disturbed, the next working day will be applicable for the same respectively.					

Md. Mizanur Rahman
Regional Director (C.C)
Phone No: 081-76211, Fax No: 081-73106

GD-3875