

Protesters turn violent during eviction drive in Kalyanpur

4 injured, HC issues injunction

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least four people, including a policeman, were injured yesterday as protesters and police threw brick chips and chased each other and the latter fired teargas canisters during an eviction drive demolishing an illegal market and some slum shanties in the capital's Kalyanpur.

Meanwhile, the High Court issued an injunction staying the eviction of the slum dwellers for three months, during which the authorities concerned were barred from harassing and threatening the dwellers without

specific allegations. The demolished market, containing some 200 shops, and the slum sit on a land owned by the Housing and Building Research Institute (HBRI), under the Ministry of Housing and Public Works, which conducted the drive.

An HBRI architect, Jamir Uddin, told The Daily Star that around 15 of the 50 acre-land was illegally occupied.

Facing protests from the shop owners and slum dwellers at the start of the drive around 9:30am, Executive Magistrate Nur Alam returned with additional police around 11:00am and

continued the demolition till 5:00pm. Many slum dwellers were seen moving belongings while others wielding sticks demonstrated by burning scrap materials.

Md Mamun, claiming to be a resident of the slum for the past 27 years, said there had been no prior notice. "The government promised us there would be no eviction without rehabilitation. We demanded rehabilitation before eviction," he said.

The magistrate refuted, saying notices to free the land had been served repeatedly.

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President suggests renaming BUP

Stresses linking education to int'l job market



UNB, Dhaka

President Abdul Hamid yesterday suggested changing the name of Bangladesh University of Professionals (BUP).

"When I had first visited the university, I saw general students studying here. But seeing its name, 'Bangladesh University of Professionals, it seems only professionals study here," he said while addressing BUP's 3rd Convocation on its campus in the capital.

"So, I think, its name needs to be changed. The name might be 'University of Excellence, Bangladesh' or persons concerned, including the army chief, can

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PM hopes for 100pc literacy rate soon

She addresses 75th founding anniversary celebration of Madan Mohan College, Sylhet

UNB, Sylhet

Bangladesh will soon achieve 100 percent literacy rate, hoped Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday.

"The country has already attained 71 percent literacy rate thanks to various pragmatic steps of our government...establishing a hunger- and poverty-free Bangladesh is not possible without an educated nation," she said while addressing the platinum jubilee celebration programme of Madan Mohan College in Sylhet.

The prime minister called upon the well-off of society to come forward to further develop the country's educational institutions to achieve 100 percent literacy rate.

Bangladesh got Unesco Literacy Award in 1998 in recognition of the huge achievement, she said.

Hasina said her government had taken various measures to make the

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ECONOMIC ZONE IN TEA ESTATES

It goes against PM's vow to protect arable land

Protest rally told

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Establishing a special economic zone (SEZ) in Habiganj will go against the prime minister's commitment for not using farmland to set up industrial units, tea garden workers and a group of political leaders advocating minority rights said yesterday.

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Five ex-Chinese ambassadors to arrive in capital Sunday

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Five former Chinese ambassadors to Bangladesh will arrive in Dhaka on Sunday on a five-day visit.

The delegation of former envoys will meet their old friends in Bangladesh and witness the progress achieved by Bangladesh in recent years, diplomatic sources said.

The former Chinese ambassadors, who will pay the visit on January 24-28, are: Wang Chungui, Hu Qianwen, Chai Xi, Zheng Qingdian and Zhang Xianyi.

The envoys had served in Bangladesh since 1997.

Chinese embassy sources said the former envoys will visit various places in the country and key establishments including the construction site of the Padma Bridge project during their stay in Bangladesh.

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FOLLOW YOUR FOOD

The appeal of humble Tilapia

Tilapia is not only a mild white fish, low in calories but has the ability to take on the flavour of other ingredients making it easy to combine into a lot of recipes. Most parents are aware of how challenging it can be to incorporate fish into a growing child's daily diet and Tilapia is the answer to that. No matter the type of fish, its presence on the lunch or dinner menu is obvious, regardless of the occasion. But how often do we wonder about the story behind how it ended up on our plates?

The Tilapia fish available at Shwapno weighs no less than two-fifty grams. Gobinda from Bogra, has been farming fish for more than a decade now and is a regular, reliable supplier to Shwapno. The process starts with him collecting fries from Mymensingh and then farming them in small ponds (two to three bigha). They are fed thrice in a day and stay in these ponds for about two months until they become big enough to be shifted to larger ponds where they remain until they are ready to be netted.

This entire process of farming Tilapia is five months long during which time Gobinda regularly consults with the local experts of fish to ensure optimum quality of the batch. Shwapno sends a team to inspect the batches of Tilapia being farmed on a regular basis and only fish of the aforementioned weight are sorted and sent to Dhaka via trucks that contain make-shift water tanks. Keeping in mind that freshness is key to the quality of the product, Shwapno only accepts fresh live fish.

Tilapia is a great option to the more body conscious ones as consumption of the fish gives a sense of fullness. It contains all the essential amino acids required to maintain healthy body tissue as well as making it a great source of protein. Tilapia contains minerals that are known to contribute to healthy teeth and bones and calcium and potassium that help with muscle contraction and heart functions. Many are unaware that Tilapia is rich in vitamin B-12 which is integral in the bodily functions from proper synthesis of red blood cells, maintaining neurological functions to the protection of nerve endings; all of which promotes various bodily functions.

The role of fish is one that is closely tied to our culture, heritage and traditions. Bengalis love food and nothing sounds better than a steaming bowl of rice and Tilapia! If you feel like your kid is missing out on the experience of eating yummy fish dishes just because of its aftertaste then maybe it is best to start with a Tilapia!