

Ministry unable to deal with environment issues: Experts

UNB, Dhaka

Though the environmental pollution has emerged as a major issue, the Ministry of Environment and Forests appears unable to take the lead role in dealing with the alarming incidents of pollution and enforcing the existing laws of the land, said environment experts.

Talking to the news agency, Prof M Shahidul Islam of Dhaka University's Geography and Environment department, environment expert Dr Atiq Rahman, ex-additional director general of DoE Md Shahjahan, Poribesh Bachao Andolan (Poba) Chairman Abu Naser Khan and Bangladesh Paribesh Andolan (Bapa) General Secretary MA Matin, observed that the ministry still can play a vital role in using its existence capacity to control environmental pollution with its sincerity.

Prof Shahidul Islam said the main role of the ministry is to protect the environment and ensure development and identified the ministry's lack of manpower, competence, strong monitoring and coordination with other agencies as the main barriers.

Existing laws are enough to check environmental problems, he said.

Dr Atiq Rahman said the Environment Ministry and the relevant agencies, have so far could not take a coordinated policy to address many environmental problems.

He suggested taking integrated plans alongside carrying out an awareness campaign to free every ward of the city from environmental pollution.

Md Shahjahan said the government should properly empower the ministry and DoE as a regulatory body and enforce the laws.

Abu Naser Khan said, "With proper training, the ministry can diminish the environmental pollution using its existing manpower and capacity."

He said the ministry should work in coordination with relevant ministries, including industries and commerce ministries, and agencies like Dhaka Wasa, city corporations, BRTA and Dhaka Metropolitan Police, to check pollution and enforce laws.

MA Matin said, "Environment Ministry doesn't get enough budgetary allocation and due attention to play a strong role." He said the government should strengthen the "Paribesh Adalat" (Environment Court), to punish all environment offenders and criticised the political parties for not talking about this issue.

Deputy Minister for Environment and Forests Abdullah Al Islam Jakob said their ministry is doing very well in managing environmental problems despite some limitations.

He said they are also taking various steps to overcome shortcomings, including manpower shortage, for playing a stronger role in conserving environment.



Tired of nothing being done by the authorities concerned, this woman, one of the unemployed diploma nurses, lying down on the ground on the 27th day of their indefinite hunger strike in front of the capital's Jatiya Press Club yesterday. Aggrieved by a Bangladesh Public Service Commission circular seeking to recruit 3,616 senior nurses through exams, the nurses have been demonstrating since April 4, demanding recruitment based on merits and seniority. Referring to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's previous announcement on recruiting 10,000 nurses, the demonstrators claim that many of them could not apply in the last 3 recruitment phases thanks to the previous system's seniority clause. On the top of that they say it will now be unjust if they are to compete with juniors.

PHOTO: STAR

NEWS IN brief

Allegation of use of bamboo in Chuadanga building true: JS body

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

A parliamentary committee on the agriculture ministry has found the allegation of substituting bamboo sticks for iron rods in constructing a government-funded research centre in Chuadanga to be true.

The five-member body headed by lawmaker Mokbul Hossain yesterday visited the building in Darshana in Damurhuda upazila. Action will be taken against those involved in it, Mokbul said.

The construction of the two-storey building for Biological Research Centre and Lab started in January this year. So far, 65 percent of work has been done.

Dhaka cop sent to jail on rape charge

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A policeman was arrested in a rape case in the capital's Sabujbagh yesterday.

A Dhaka court sent Shamsuzzoha, a constable of Rajarbagh Police Lines, to jail after he was produced before it, said Kuddus Fakir, officer-in-charge of Sabujbagh Police Station. A woman brought the rape charge against Shamsuzzoha as he refused to marry her although he developed a sexual relationship with her promising her to do so, he said.

Six fraudsters arrested in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rab yesterday arrested six frauds who had been cheating people in the name of giving them jobs at different civil positions of the Dhaka cantonment board and defence ministry.

Mamun Akanda, 23, Abul Kashem, 52, Abdur Razzak, 57, Tarek Hasan, 53, Nasir Uddin, 46, and Rashedul Majid, 32, were held in different areas of the capital, said Rab-1 officials. They used to take Tk 4 lakh to Tk 5 lakh luring people with government jobs, said a release. Nine fake appointment letters were seized.

Sust sociology dept reunion starts

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

The two-day reunion programme of the sociology department of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (Sust) began yesterday amid jubilation, inaugurated by Dr Jashim Uddin, the department head.

In the opening session, Vice-Chancellor Prof Dr Aminul Haque Bhuiyan was the chief guest, and Dr Zia Rahman, chairman of the criminology department of Dhaka University, was the keynote speaker. The Daily Star is the media partner of the programme.

Obituary

CITY DESK

Sudhendu Kumar Das, a retired school teacher, and father of Subrata Das, former Sust correspondent of The Daily Star, passed away at the capital's Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Medical University on Wednesday, aged 70. He left behind a son and four daughters.

He was a former senior teacher of Gazipur Chupair High School, organiser of Mukti Sangram Parishad in 1971, and a former general secretary of Kaliganj upazila Secondary Teacher Samity.

Smoke still billowing

FROM PAGE 4

locals from Wednesday evening to yesterday noon. Meanwhile, the FD issued a special alert in Chandpai range following the fourth fire there in four weeks.

The FD took special security measures and temporarily banned all types of permit for general people in Chandpai and Swarankhola ranges, forest resource collection and entry to the forest by fishermen and honey and leaf collectors in Chandpai range.

Those who entered the forest before the notice have been asked leave it as soon as possible. A six-member probe committee was formed to investigate the fire incidents and asked to submit its report by 10 days.

People take it on themselves

FROM PAGE 3

"Around 200 medium size deep tube-wells were set up in the last one and half months," said Delowar Hossain, a contractor.

Some other residents are getting water from the tube wells by connecting pipes with it and paying money.

"I have been paying Tk 500 monthly to get water through a pipe, which have reduced our sufferings a lot," said Mobarak Hossain, a resident of Purba Para, who has been suffering for the last one year.

Jahanara Begum, owner of an under-construction six-storey building at Hijbullah Road of Chingipara is a lucky one who has water in their reservoir and she is sharing it with her neighbours out of compassion.

"I never force them to return empty handed considering their sufferings," said Jahanara.

"I come to the building to take water every day which is a 10 minutes walk, but I

have to go to another house to take my bath and use the dirty pond water for washing clothes and dishes," lamented Nazma, a resident of Kaborsthan Lane.

A local Wasa official said there are four pumps—Kunipara water pump, Shahjalal Road water pump, Momenbagh water pump and a water pump at Basher Pool, but the capacity of the pumps have been dropped around one third to one fourth due to declining ground water level.

He said to solve the problem some new water pumps are necessary and they have already taken initiative to set up two pumps at Mridhapara in Matuail and Shadhur Math in Basher Pool, which will take three to five months to come into operation.

He also said a pump at Dogair is also very necessary but they are not getting any land to do it. "If locals or public representatives can manage the land, we will take initiative to set up the pump," he said.

AL men 'beat up' project

FROM PAGE 4

assistant Razib Ahmed tried to save him, the gang allegedly beat him mercilessly also, and threatened them of dire consequences if the matter is disclosed.

Hearing the scream, other office staff and contractors rushed to the spot and rescued us, claimed the officer.

Abdullah Al Mamun, a contractor who was present there, said, "Habib along with 4/5 men entered the room and beat the official," adding, "Some 20 minutes later, Mahbubur, with his gang arrived and repeated the beating."

Liakat Hossain, an ex-BCL secretary of Phulpur upazila unit, and a contractor, who came for Zakir's rescue, said such

incident is very untoward and harmful for the party's image.

Zakir alleged that he immediately informed Rashed Hossain Chowdhury, upazila nirbahi officer (UNO) and Ali Ahmed Mollah, officer-in-charge of Phulpur Police Station, but to no avail.

Asked, the OC said no case was lodged yet.

"I will lodge a case after talking to the higher authorities," informed Zakir.

The UNO of Phulpur said an investigation was underway.

Denying allegations, Habib and his brother Mahbubur said they just had an argument with the official over starting of the construction work.

BNP willing to assist

FROM PAGE 3

Paltan headquarters. Slamming the government for its "failure to nab" masterminds of the recent murders and for passing the buck onto BNP for the incidents, Rizvi said the government was

doing this to hide real perpetrators.

"We urge the government to stop patronising terrorism, to find out the perpetrators and give them exemplary punishment in lieu of blaming BNP men for these incidents," he added.



Sylhet City Corporation

Nagar Bhaban, Sylhet.
website: www.scc.gov.bd

Invitation for Tender

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of the Local Government, Rural Development & Co-operatives.		
2	Agency	Sylhet City Corporation.		
3	Procurement Entity Name	Chief Executive Officer, Sylhet City Corporation.		
4	Procuring Entity District	Sylhet.		
5	Invitation for	Procurement of work.		
6.	Invitation reference No.	Memo No: SCC/Eng/PW-1/221/16/685		
7	Date	28/04/2016		
Key Information				
8	Procurement Method	Limited Tendering Method (LTM)		
Funding Information				
9	Budget and source of Funds	SI No-01: Under the project of Construction of Gazi Burhan Uddin (Rh); Mazar(ADP/ADP(Special)/Own Fund of SCC and SI No. 02: Construction of Road, Drain, Retaining wall and culvert at undeveloped area of SCC.		
10	Development Partners	N/A		
11	Project/ Programme Code (If applicable)	N/A.		
12	Project/ Programme Name (If applicable)	N/A.		
13	Tender Package No.	48/2015-16		
14	Tender Package Name	N/A		
15	Tender Publication Date	28/04/2016		
16	Tender Last selling date	11/05/2016, Time: Bank Hour.		
17	Tender Closing date and Time	12/05/2016, Time: 2:00 PM.		
18	Tender opening date and time	12/05/2016, Time: 3:00 PM.		
Name & Address of offices:-				
19	Selling Tender document (Principal)	Office of the Chief Engineer, Nagar Bhaban (Extension Office), Sylhet City Corporation.		
	Selling Tender document (Others).	a) Office of the Divisional Commissioner, Sylhet Division, Sylhet. b) Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Sylhet.		
	Receiving tender document	Sylhet City Corporation Extended Office (2 nd floor) Tupkhana, Sylhet.		
	Opening tender document	Sylhet City Corporation Extended Office (2 nd floor) Tupkhana, Sylhet.		
20	Place/date/time of Pre-tender meeting (Optional)	N/A.		
Information of Tenderer				
21	Eligibility of Tenderer	As per terms and condition of individual tender document.		
22	Brief description of Related services	Not Applicable.		
23	Description of work	-:		
Group No.	Name of the work	Tender Security Amount of Tk.	Price of Tender Document	Completion time of works
01	Construction of RCC Drain at Gazi Burhan Uddin (Rh) Main Road.	1,12,000/-	2200.00	90 Days
02	Improvement of Rekabi Bazar Point to Mirer Maidan Point by carpeting.	70,000/-	1400/-	60 Days
24	Name of Official inviting tender	Engr. Nur Azizur Rahman.		
25	Designation of official inviting tender	Chief Engineer (I/C).		
26	Address of Official inviting tender	Sylhet City Corporation.		
27	Contact details of official inviting tender	0821-719534.		
Terms and Conditions:				
1. Tender security amount in the form of Pay Order/Bank Draft/Bank Guarantee from any scheduled bank to be submitted in favour of Chief Executive Officer, Sylhet City Corporation.				
2. 5% performance security in the form of Pay order/Bank Draft/Bank Guarantee to be submitted in favour of Chief Executive Officer, Sylhet City Corporation before signing the contract.				
3. Validity of Tender period shall be 120 days.				
4. Detailed specification, terms & condition shall be available in the individual tender document.				
5. The rules, regulation and procedure of RPPR-2009 shall be applied.				
6. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders without assigning any reason.				
7. If quoted rate is above 5% or less than 5% of official estimate it shall be annulled.				
8. If quoted lowest prices are more than one, than contractor shall be selected through lottery.				

Engr. Nur Azizur Rahman
Chief Engineer (In Charge)
Sylhet City Corporation

GD-969

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Ready to Dine with

The Super Chefs?

Watch Rupchanda-The Daily Star Super Chef 2016, and win a chance to meet The Super Chefs up-close!

Q. What cooking oil did Leslie Gilliams use to prepare his rack of lamb on a bed of potato with coleslaw?

A. Sunflower oil
B. Rupchanda mustard oil
C. Black cumin Oil
D. Olive oil

Send your answer by 9pm, May 7, 2016 using the following format:
Write SC<space>A/B/C/D & send to 6969

