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MOGHBAZAR-MOUCHAK FLYOVER



SHAH CEMENT

Principal Cement in the Flyover Project

One mill killing Karnaphuli

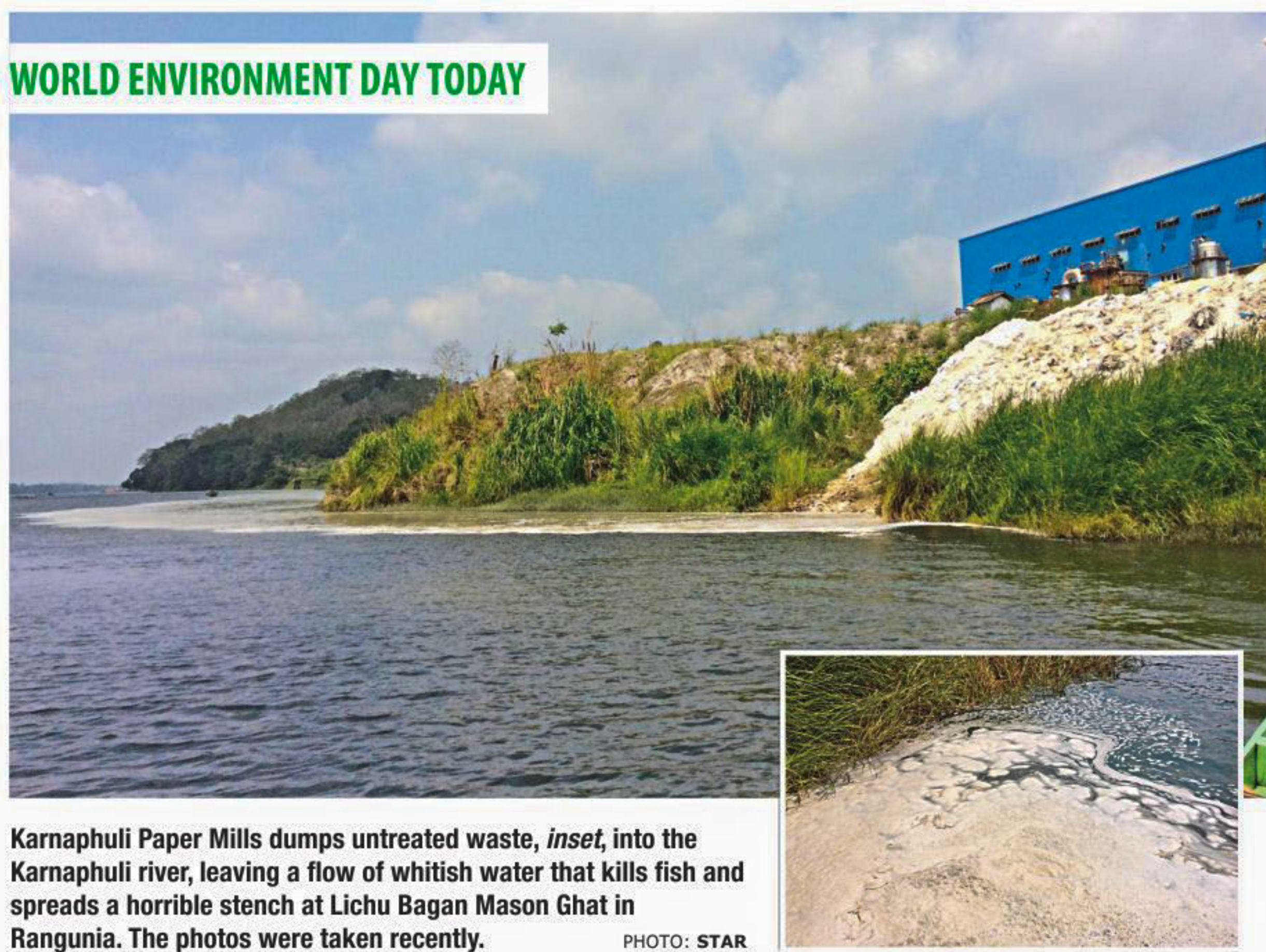
MINHAJ UDDIN, Chittagong

With hills and trees on both sides, the view of the Karnaphuli from Rangunia upazila's Lichu Bagan Mason Ghat is breathtaking. But that's where the good things end. If you take a stroll along the river or go near the water, you would know why. There is a strong stench of chemicals from the water. And if you look closer, you would see a flow of whitish water near the bank. Mohammed Haroon, a local boatman, said, "If you touch the water, your hands will itch. Large dead fish float on the water if they get in contact with the whitish flow. And this could be seen 10 kilometres downstream and the horrid stench is there too."

The reason the whitish fluid makes its way into the Karnaphuli, the lifeline of Chittagong, is the Karnaphuli Paper Mills (KPM). The country's largest and state-owned paper manufacturer is polluting the river by discharging thousands of tonnes of

untreated toxic waste every day. The factory, with no effluent treatment plant (ETP), has been dumping hazardous substances into the river since its inception in 1953. For the people of Rangunia, the floating waste and the smell are not new. But for the port city dwellers, it is a big concern now because the Chittagong Wasa is going to collect water for the city from this area. The Wasa hopes to supply 14 crore litres of water daily from November this year by collecting water from Pomra, a place only 3.6km downstream from the factory. "Our treatment plant does not have the capacity to treat the toxic chemicals of the KPM. We have written to the KPM and the Department of Environment (DoE) authorities several times -- the latest a month ago -- to address the issue, but to no avail. We have to continue with our project [Karnaphuli Water Supply Project] as the city is facing

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Karnaphuli Paper Mills dumps untreated waste, inset, into the Karnaphuli river, leaving a flow of whitish water that kills fish and spreads a horrible stench at Lichu Bagan Mason Ghat in Rangunia. The photos were taken recently.

PHOTO: STAR

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY TODAY

Eid visa camp opens for Bangladeshis

It will ease Indian visa process for Eid holidaymakers

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The Indian High Commission yesterday began a 12-day "Eid Visa Camp" to help Bangladeshis get visas with ease if they wish to travel to the neighbouring country during the upcoming Eid-ul-Fitr.

On the first day, several thousand people flocked to the camp set up at New Chancery Complex, High Commission of India, in the capital's Baridhara and submitted their tourist visa applications without a prior appointment date or token.

The camp, first of its kind in the history of Bangladesh-India relations, SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

Man arrested with shotgun cartridges at Sylhet airport

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Customs Intelligence officials at Osmani International Airport yesterday arrested a Bangladeshi-origin UK citizen for carrying 150 shotgun cartridges from England.

The arrestee is Abdus Sabur, a UK immigrant from Beanibazar upazila in Sylhet. Aged around 35, he came from London on Biman flight BG-002. Finding his movement suspicious, officials

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Bagpipes the penguin gets 3D printed foot

BBC ONLINE

A penguin in New Zealand that had its leg amputated after it got stuck in a fishing line has received a custom-made 3D printed foot.

Bagpipes the Little Blue penguin lost his left leg in 2007 and since then has hopped and wriggled his way around his new home at the International

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

Polls violence due to social instability

Claims CEC; AL sings similar tune

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Social instability and rigid stances of union parishad polls candidates were responsible for the election violence, claimed Chief Election Commissioner Kazi Rakibuddin Ahmad yesterday.

"Unrest is witnessed at every layer of our society and this is one of the major causes for the poll violence ... we have to bring a change in our social concept," Rakibuddin said at a post-polls press conference at the EC Secretariat when asked who was responsible for the deaths of over 100 people during the union parishad polls.

The CEC came up with the response hours after ruling Awami League Joint General Secretary Mahbul Alam Hanif made a statement with a similar tune. He had blamed social conflict and instability for violence in the UP polls.

After a meeting at the AL chief's Dhanmondi office

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

Return of 'trafficked' Indian boy in legal limbo

PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE

The repatriation of Sonu, the "trafficked" Indian boy, hangs in the balance due to legal obligations.

Now at Jessore Kishore Unnayan Kendra, a correction centre, his return hinges on the directive of Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal in Barguna, said Md Shahbuddin, deputy director of the centre.

The 12-year-old was "tricked" and brought to Bangladesh in 2010. He was rescued from "abductors" in Barguna in December last year.

Irked at the slow progress in the repatriation, the foreign ministry in a letter to the home ministry on May 31 requested it to take necessary measures for handing over the boy to the Indian High Commission representatives in Dhaka within a day.

The Daily Star has obtained a copy of the letter. In the letter to Senior Home Secretary

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PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION

Court orders not being fully implemented

Experts say lack of govt will, monitoring, public awareness is to blame

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A female teacher in Bagatipara upazila of Natore beat up 42 girl students of her madrasa on January 31 while inquiring into a petty theft. On May 8, a school kid in Laxmipur was hospitalised being beaten up by a teacher for



talking to a fellow student in an exam hall.

The teacher involved in the first incident was suspended while the other only apologised through mediation.

Incidents of this type keep taking place although the High Court five years ago

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এগিয়ে যাওয়ার

আপনাদের আস্থাই আজ ও আগামীর পথচলা

সমৃদ্ধির এই পথচলায় সাথে থাকার জন্য সকল গ্রাহক ও শুভানুধ্যায়ীদের কৃতজ্ঞতা ও আন্তরিক ধন্যবাদ।

JAMUNABANK

World Environment Day 5th June



Save wilderness save wild

Royal Bengal Tiger the most majestic but most threatened species in the world is now increasing in numbers after centuries of decline (3,890 from 3,200 in 5 years). Bangladesh is a proud habitat of wild tigers and a wide range of wild animals, birds and fish. Our conscious and concerted efforts to save the wilderness will help saving the wild.

Let us all work together.



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