

Govt to sign \$275m ADB funding deal tomorrow

BSS, Dhaka

The government will sign a \$275 million agreement with Asian Development Bank (ADB) next week to fund a project for ensuring supply of safe drinking water in Dhaka city.

Economic Relations Division Senior Secretary Mohammad Mejbahuddin and ADB Country Director Kazuhiko Higuchi will sign the loan agreement on behalf of their respective sides at the National Economic Council conference room in the capital tomorrow.

Under the agreement, Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (DWASA) will implement the \$408 million Dhaka Water Supply Network Improvement Project. Of the amount, ADB will provide \$275 million.



Members of Lawachhara Bon O Jibo Boichitro Rokkha Andolon visit a school in Srimangal of Moulvibazar to raise awareness among students as part of their ongoing mass signature campaign to protect Lawachhara forest.

Greens firm on saving Lawachhara

MINTU DESHWARA, back from Lawachhara

Lawachhara National Park is under threat following the government's move to fell around 25,000 trees of the forest to ensure a safe rail communication.

With that in mind, Lawachhara Bon O Jibo Boichitro Rokkha Andolon has decided to continue its ongoing mass signature campaign to raise awareness among the tourists and people including school and college students in order to stop the government's move.

The signature campaign started from the day after Eid and ended yesterday, said Abul Hasan, member secretary of the group. "But we have decided to continue our campaign until our demands are met," he said.

Earlier, on April 9, a letter signed by Md Arman Hossain, divisional engineer of Bangladesh Railway, was sent to Kamalganj Forest Range office asking the forest department to cut trees along the rail track of Srimongal-Bhanugachh section's 5km area, according to railway sources.

Clearing trees near the tracks will prevent accidents caused by trees falling across the railway line, it said.

But the green activists said felling of such large number of trees would threaten the environment and jeopardise the forest's biodiversity.

Contacted, Mujibur Rahman, assistant executive engineer of BR in Sylhet, told The Daily Star yesterday that plying of train through the forest has become risky because of trees.

That was why the BR had sent the letter with an entreaty to fell about 25,000 trees along the rail track in order to make train journeys safer, he said.

The letter also mentioned that the inter-district Upobon Express Train got stuck after around 30 trees lay on rail track after being uprooted by a storm on April 21, 2015.

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Gonojagoron Mancha faction plans anti-terror campaign

DU CORRESPONDENT

A faction of Gonojagoron Mancha announced a month-long programme which will start on Monday countrywide to make people aware of the scourge of militancy and how to resist it.

Spokesperson of the faction Imran H Sarker announced it at a rally titled "We want a militancy free secular and secured Bangladesh" in the capital's Shahbag yesterday.

He claimed that the prevailing culture of impunity in the country leads to the upsurge of militancy.

"Political parties should stop the culture of blaming each other and work together against militancy... Private universities must take steps to search those who are involved in militancy," he urged.

While talking about the rise of militancy, Prof Ajoy Roy, father of slain blogger Avijit Roy, said "Previously we blamed qawmi madrasa for the rise of extremism."

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NEWSIN brief

Woman hurt in acid attack

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

A woman sustained burn injuries in her leg in an acid attack in Kazihati village of Habiganj on Thursday night.

Nil Banu, 35, wife of Manik Miah is undergoing treatment at Habiganj Sadar Hospital.

On Thursday night Manik's son Aman, 13, and Milton, 14, son of Mortuj Ali fought over a matter. When their parents came to know it, an altercation ensued between the families, said police.

Manik said being furious over the matter, Mortuj later with his gang went to his house searching for him. While they were returning after not finding him they saw his wife and threw acid on her.

AL-led alliance forms committee in Rajshahi to fight terrorism

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Rajshahi unit of the Awami League-led 14-party yesterday formed a committee to resist militancy and terrorism in Rajshahi.

The committee was formed at a meeting held in the Rajshahi Government College auditorium with Rajshahi unit of 14-party convener AHM Khairuzzaman Liton in the chair.

Presidents and general secretaries of 80 different organisations were made members of the committee.

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Rabiul remembered as son

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professor of philosophy of Dhaka University, Abdul Alim Khan, deputy secretary of Public Works Ministry, Shahidullah Swapan, director of Lions Club Dhaka Ideal Green, Zia Shawkat Ali, president of BLOOMS school management committee, among others, attended the meeting.

Tearful, the speakers said the school was a dream of Rabiul and they would run the school according to his thought.

He always thought about welfare of the common people, they said, adding that he was very polite and was admired by everybody for his efforts in ensuring welfare of the people of the society.

Rabiul distributed clothes among relatives and villagers even two days before his death, recalled the speakers.

"He was a role model for his fellows and was very much committed to working for his village's welfare," said Nur Siddiqui, a fellow of Rabiul.

In the meeting, Swapan gave a pledge to provide support to the school while Nuruzzaman and Khan said Rabiul sacrificed his life for greater interest of the country...

The slain police official also established a kindergarten, Kabi Nazrul Bidiyari, at his village in 2007 with a view to fulfilling his father's dream.

There is no single organisation in the area, which did not get any assistance from Rabiul, said Biplob Hossain Selim, chairman of Krisnapur Union Parishad in the upazila.

Nure Alam Sarker, chairman of neighbouring Atigram Union Parishad, recalled that Rabiul always urged him to work for development of the localities.

Son of late Abdul Khaleq, Rabiul left behind his seven-year-old son Sajidul Karim Sami, wife Umme Salma, who is expecting a baby, elderly mother Karimun Nesa and brother Shamsuzzaman Shams, who is the Jahangirnagar University (JU) correspondent of the Bangla daily Prothom Alo.

Rabiul joined the police after succeeding the 30th BCS examinations after his post graduation in Bangla from JU.

3 of a family die in bus

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Police and fire service men rescued the injured and rushed them to Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Medical College Hospital in Bogra. Gaziur Rahma, senior assistant superintendent of police of Bogra, said the bus was seized and its driver fled.

Our Dinajpur correspondent adds: At least 15 people were injured when a bus turned turtle while its driver was trying to take over a three-wheeler on Joypurhat-Bogra road in Akkelpur upazila of Joypurhat Thursday. The injured were hospitalised.

KSA largest source of

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remittance of \$2.212 billion from the USA until May in the FY 2015-16 while Malaysia, with \$1.204 billion, has been in the fourth position during the period.

In the same period, Bangladesh received remittances of \$758.62 million from the UK, \$348.90 million from Singapore, \$304.94 million from Italy, \$61.46 million from Australia, \$57million from South Korea, \$23.16 million from Hong Kong, \$19.79 million from Japan and \$22.96 million from Germany. The total remittance from other countries stood at \$721.05 million during the same period. It is believed that about 10 million non-resident Bangladeshis are now living in over 150 countries.

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A job well

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activities. "Publishing reports like these will also help to create public awareness," he added.

Abdul Karim Kim, general secretary of Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon, Sylhet chapter, said, "We have also visited the fair area to see if any vendors are selling birds yesterday afternoon," he said, adding, "We thank the SCC authorities for a successful operation."

প্লট বিক্রয়
 রাজউক পূর্বাংশে সেক্টর-২৬, রোড-২০২, প্লট-৩৪, ৩ কাঠা এবং সেক্টর-০৩, রোড-৪০৭ এ ৭২ কাঠার প্লট জরুরী প্রয়োজনে বিক্রয়।
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