

## BUILDING BLOCKS OF TOMORROW

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

**ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE ACTION** 



## Biodiversity and climate change

among which Chital
(Notopteruschitala) and Baim
(Mastacembelusarmatus) are the
endangered ones. Alarming drops in
the count of these fishes are indeed
incidences calling for immediate
actions from the government.
Global and national strategy/instruments for biodiversity con-

In the past, Bangladesh has signed major international agreements related to biodiversity including the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS or the Bonn Convention), The Convention on Wetlands or the popularly known Ramsar Convention, and the World Heritage Convention (WHC).

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(CBD): It is known that people of Bangladesh rely heavily on its biological resources to support their livelihood. But the country bears the brunt of climate change induced natural disasters and destructive human activities, including rapid urbanisation and destruction of natural habitat. In that light, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992 presented one of its landmark outcomes on biodiversity conservation called the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The Convention is the first of its kind to address that conservation of biodiversity as a "common concern of humankind" and posited three main objectives: (a) conservation of biological diversity; (b) sustainable use of its components; and (c) fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources. Bangladesh signed



## BIG CAT COUNT

## **Number of wild tigers**

India	2226
Russia	433
Indonesia	371
Malaysia	250
Nepal	198
Thailand	189

Bangladesh	106
Bhutan	103
China	>7
Vietnam	<5
Lao PDR	2
Cambodia	0
Global total:	3890

Current data for Myanmar not available

the CBD in 1992 and ratified it in 1994. Therefore, the country is globally committed to fulfilling the objectives of the Convention and conserve biodiversity for the wellbeing of people living now and in the generations to come. To fulfil the obligation of the CBD, Bangladesh has prepared the

Biodiversity National Assessment 2015 or the Fifth National Report of Bangladesh. The country is also updating the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), which was first prepared in 2004. Bangladesh Forestry Master Plan: Bangladesh Forest Department (BFD) is trying to undertake the Forestry Master Plan. As such, BFD is trying to provide a framework to optimise the contribution of the forestry department in balancing socio-economic development with environmental stabilisation. It includes sustainable forestry management approaches including bio-carbon financing, community participation and co-management to conserve forestry resources. The Master Plan has made several recommendations, collated through a consultative and inclusive process to address the challenges to conserve forestry resources. The recommendations outlined in the Forestry Master Plan deserve close scrutiny and immediate implementation.

Bangladesh National Conservation
Strategy (NCS): The GoB is trying to conserve its natural resources guided by action plans, policies, strategies and international conventions. Funded by

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the Ministry of Environment and Forest (MOEF) under the Climate Change Trust Fund, the BFD is undertaking the Bangladesh National Conservation Strategy (NCS). The NCS (2016-2031) is expected to generate a conducive policy strategy for natural

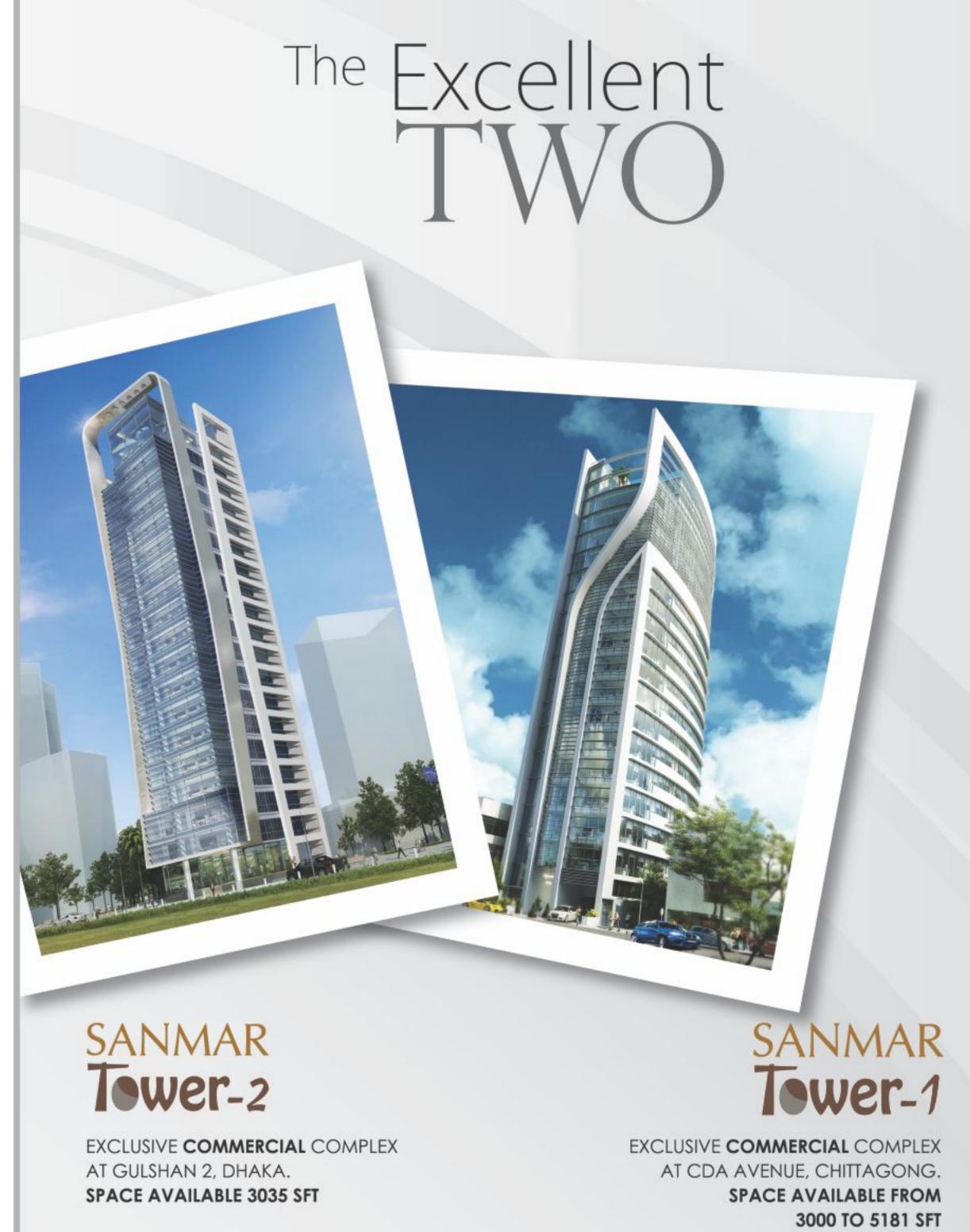
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