

**ANIMAL SACRIFICE**

People need to be aware of keeping city clean

*Poba roundtable told*  
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Environmentalists yesterday stressed the need for public awareness and strong monitoring to ensure that people follow proper process of animal sacrifice in Eid-ul-Azha to keep the city clean.

Speaking at a roundtable, they urged the two Dhaka city corporations to allocate adequate places for slaughtering across the city and introduce punishment for those who will not slaughter animals at those places.

Poribesh Bachao Andolan (Poba) organised the roundtable on waste management during Eid-ul-Azha at its office in the capital, a press release said.

They also called upon the city corporations to clean animal wastes within a week after Eid, it said. Poba Chairman Abu Naser Khan among others spoke on the occasion.



A makeshift market of sacrificial animals occupies a portion of Dhaka-Chittagong highway in the capital's Shonir Akhra. Though there is an instruction of the authorities concerned not to set up any such markets on roads, the directive goes unheeded. If any strict measures are not taken, the market there might contribute to traffic jam on the busy road and worsen sufferings of the home-bound passengers ahead of the Eid-ul-Azha. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

# Cattle swarming Ctg markets

BSS, Ctg

Cattle markets across Chittagong city and the district have gained momentum with lots of buyers and thousands of sacrificial animals starting swarming just a week before Eid-ul-Azha.

A huge number of sacrificial animals are being brought for sale at different cattle markets including Bibirhat Bazar, Sagorika Bazar, Nurnagar housing society haat, Patenga City Corporation High School premises, Komol Mohajan Haat and Shah Amanat Bridge and Shikolbanga areas.

Several traders said there were plenty of supplies of cattle to the markets, but their prices were exorbitant to some extent compared to the previous year's.

There is no shortage of cattle supply, said Sayed Alam, a cattle trader, who came from Teknaf.

Alongside the city's biggest cattle market, scores of temporary markets also started drawing attention of the buyers.

The local cattle traders, including the wholesalers, are still sending their cattle to the markets and different upazilas of the district after purchasing those from different districts of the country, Ibrahim Sawdagor, a leasee of Shah Amanat bridge temporary cattle market, told the news agency.

Meanwhile, the demand for sacrificial animals has been seemingly increased as the wholesalers are sending a large number of animals to various markets from different big markets in north eastern districts of the country, he added.

Some traders said the price of sacrificial animals was steady but the price may shoot up a bit because of the soaring price of animal food and transport cost this year.

"Transport fares might have an impact on the cattle price," said Kabir Hossain, a trader at Bibirhat bazar.

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## Ensure rights of informal sector workers

*Labour Rights Forum rally told*  
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a rally yesterday sought recognition of the informal sector workers in the labour law.

They called upon the government to amend the Bangladesh Labour Act 2013 incorporating opinions of the workers of the informal sectors, which include auto-rickshaw drivers, hawkers and domestic workers.

Bangladesh Labour Rights Forum organised the rally in front of Jatiya Press Club in the capital.

Zakir Hossain, member secretary of the forum, said, "Definition of a labourer is not clear in the act. So an amendment is needed,"

Golam Faruk, leader of an organisation of auto-rickshaw workers, said those who are working in the transportation sector are not recognised as labourers. They are not provided with any appointment letter.

Though the informal sector workers are contributing to the country's economy, they are being deprived of their rights, he said.

Referring to the statistics of Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS), Muni Rani Das, leader of a domestic workers' alliance, said out of the total labour force of the country, the informal sector workers are around 75 percent.

Domestic workers do

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# Sea level rise puts 27m at risk

*Says Brac annual report*

UNB, Dhaka

Some 27 million people are "predicted to be at risk" of sea-level rise in Bangladesh by 2050, according to a Brac report.

"Climate change is a concern now affecting every one of us and Bangladesh is one of the most vulnerable to its effects," Brac said in its Annual Report 2016.

Two-thirds of the country are less than five metres above sea level, and floods are increasingly destroying homes, croplands and damaging infrastructure.

Approximately 10,000 hectares of land is lost every year due to riverbank erosion, Brac said. Also, agricultural land is shrinking by 1 percent annually while the population is growing by 1.2 percent.

This is creating a rise in demand for

*Two-thirds of Bangladesh are less than five metres above sea level, and floods are increasingly destroying homes.*

food, while increasingly unpredictable weather conditions pose a growing challenge to farmers trying to meet those demands, reads the report.

The report also said some 2.2 million young people enter Bangladesh's workforce every year but three out of every four business leaders report that

skilled workers are scarce.

Over 2 million people enter the potential labour force annually but two out of every five young people are not in employment, education or training, said the report.

Brac report claimed that approximately 10 million young people are currently unemployed or underemployed.

According to the Brac, more than 7555,000 people left for overseas jobs in 2016.

Economic migrants face myriad challenges from high fees charged by recruitment agencies to low wages, a lack of information on migration opportunities and risks, exploitation and abuse, it said.

On gender issues, the report said eight out of 10 married women in Bangladesh experience violence at least once in their lifetime.

## Sundarbans to come under 'Smart patrolling'

UNB, Khulna

"Smart (Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool) patrolling" will begin in the Sundarbans from September to ensure overall security of the world's largest mangrove forest, and to reduce criminal activities as well as wildlife and forest-related crimes.

According to the forest department sources, smart patrolling system was introduced earlier in the Sundarbans under the auspices of various private organisations which noticeably helped reduce forest crimes.

Following that, the forest department sent a proposal to the Ministry of Environment and Forests in April to continue the patrolling on a regular basis and it later received the approval to start the process from September, said Amir Hossain Chowdhury, forest conservator of Khulna.

Each patrolling group will have eight members. Among the eight, four will carry firearms. They will patrol the area on three water vessels -- one mother vessel, one speed boat and a fibre boat.

Moreover, each group will conduct the drive in the forest for 12 to 14 days. Global Positioning System (GPS) and

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## Train rams truck, kills 2, injures 3

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

At least two people were killed and three others injured as a small truck was hit by a train at a level crossing in Boktarpur area of Kaliakoir upazila in Gazipur yesterday afternoon.

The deceased were identified as Babul Miah, 30, and Shakil Khan, 35. Both of them are residents of Sirajganj.

All the deceased and the injured were the driver and passengers of the truck.

According to eye witnesses, the pick-up truck, loaded with fish, was travelling on Chandra-Kharajora road and suddenly got stuck at Boktarpur level crossing around 3:00pm.

Dhaka-bound Sundarban

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# Holidaymakers head out on train today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The holidaymakers who purchased advance train tickets will start leaving the capital today to celebrate the Eid-ul Azha with their near and dear ones at home.

In less than a week, the Muslims will celebrate the Eid on September 2.

Although the rush for home would reach its peak from Thursday, many people, mainly jobholders, are sending their family members few days ahead of the Eid to avoid sufferings on the way, a picture that is common before every Eid.

With several major highways witnessing traffic congestion due to potholes, expansion and repair works and delays at ferry docks, bus operators are speculating that the situation might get worse if it rains in the days leading up to the Eid.

The Met office too could not give any good news to console the holidaymakers planning to go home on bus. According to their forecast, the monsoon will remain active and rainfall may intensify from today.

"The current trend will continue for the next two to three days. But the intensity of rainfall may increase when the monsoon becomes active for three to four days in a row," said Arif Hossain, meteorologist of Dhaka Met office, on Wednesday.

Usually, around 1.29 crore people of Dhaka, Narayanganj and Gazipur leave the cities to celebrate Eid at their homes, according to National Committee to Protect Shipping, Roads and Railways (NCPSRR).

Of them, 55 percent will go by road while 25 percent on waterways and 20 percent by train, NCPSRR estimated.

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This truck was dragged about 500 metres after the Sundarban Express train rammed it at Boktarpur level crossing in Kaliakoir upazila of Gazipur yesterday.

PHOTO: ABU BAKAR SIDDIQUE AKAND

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