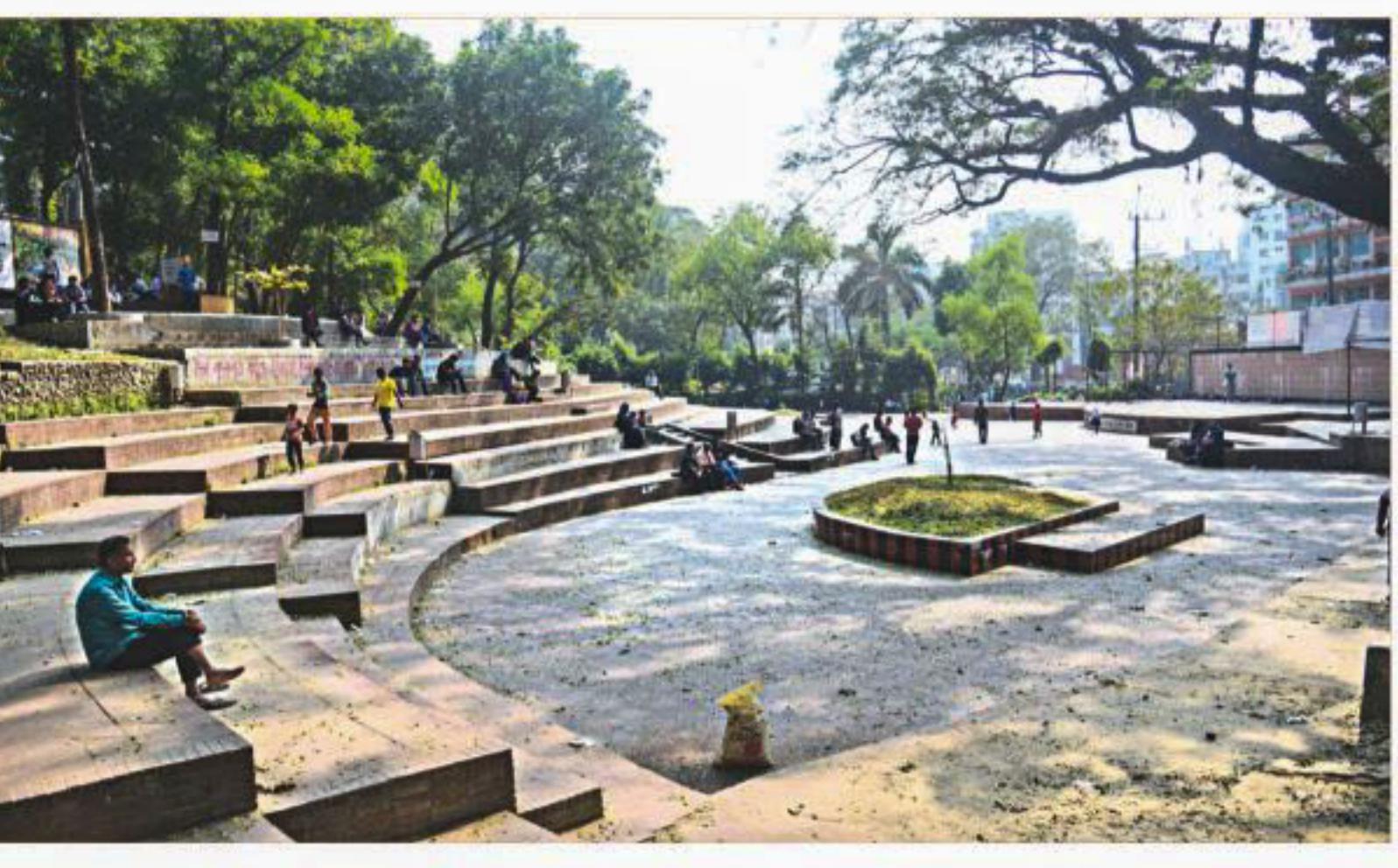
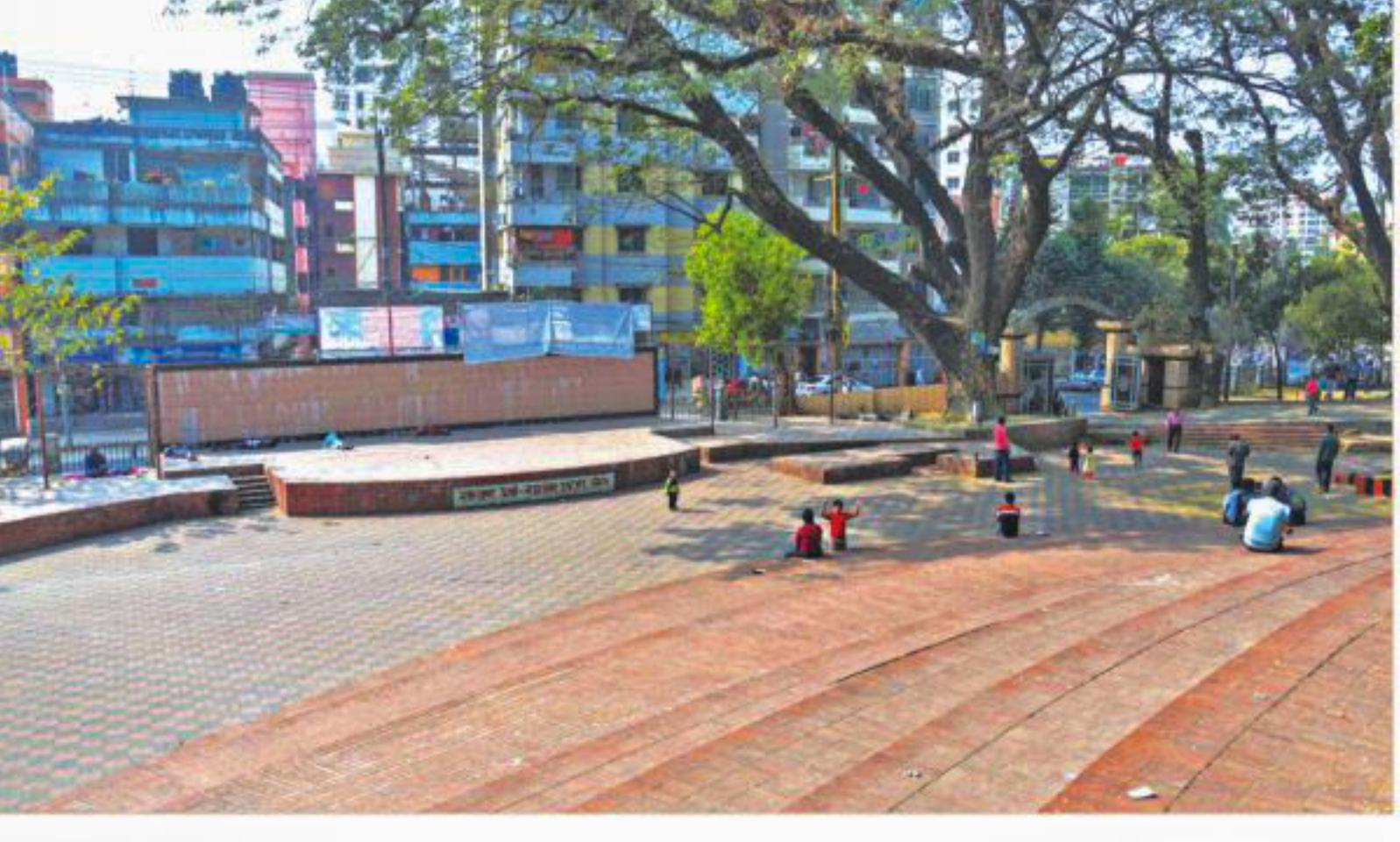




Once vibrant with activities, DC Hill now wears a deserted look. With its open stage, the place has a long tradition of holding cultural programmes as it is located in the centre of the port city. Due to a recent announcement made by Housing and Public Works Minister Eng Mosharraf Hossain that only three programmes -- Pahela Baishakh, Rabindra Jayanti, and Nazrul Jayanti -- will be allowed on the spot since organisers dump rubbish during programmes and make the place dirty, it now remains off limit. However, no formal declaration has yet been made regarding the decision. But, the authorities concerned have stopped giving permission to hold events there. The photos were taken yesterday.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN



Govt 'inaction' behind spread of polythene bags: Greens

UNB, Dhaka

Green activists yesterday alleged that the law banning polythene shopping bags has become ineffective due to "inaction" by the government.

At a human chain, they also said the widespread use of polythene bags from shopping malls to kitchen markets gives an impression that the government has forgotten that it has a responsibility to implement the law and check the production and use of non-biodegradable polythene bags.

Pobish Bachao Andol (Poba) and 16 other environmental and social organisations formed the human chain before Jatiya Press Club demanding proper implementation of the law.

Poba General Secretary Abdus Sobhan said around 1,200 factories in the country are regularly producing the banned polythene bags. "There are over 300 factories in Old Dhaka alone."

He also alleged that a number of influential syndicates are involved in polythene bag trading and marketing. Sobhan said the production and use of polythene bags are growing alarmingly for a lack of the government's strong political will. Citing a study, he said over two crores of polythene bags is used only in Dhaka city daily.

The other speakers made a call for alternative bags like jute, paper and clothes-made ones and encouraging people to use those.

In 2002, the then government enacted the law banning the production, supply, sale and use of polythene as shopping bags.

However, under the Bangladesh Environment Protect (Amendment 2002) Act 1995, the government in 2007 allowed the production of 55-micron thick polythene for the packaging of garment products, medicine, fish fry, sapling and some other goods and products which virtually contributed to the rise in production and the use of the harmful object.

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Teach in mother tongue Prothom Alo roundtable told

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Acquiring reading skills in native language helps boost children's brain development, said speakers at a roundtable in the capital yesterday.

They stressed the need for promoting literacy using children's first language and also urged the primary and mass education ministry to improve teachers' training programmes and introduce new interactive teaching methods.

The Prothom Alo with the help of USAID (United States Agency for International Development) and Save the Children, Bangladesh organised the roundtable on "Reading Skills in Mother Tongue: Foundation of Quality Education" at the newspaper's office.

Prof Emeritus Manzoor Ahmed of Brac University said learning in mother tongue helps children flourish their talents.

Iffat Ara Nasrin Majid, director, Institute of Modern Language, Dhaka University, said primary school teachers have to be

knowledgeable as they are responsible for building strong foundation for kids.

Teaching and learning materials, mainly books, have to be interesting and colourful to make children enthusiastic about reading, she added.

Prof Jinnat Imtiaz Ali, director general, International Mother Language Institute, said the authorities must work to develop the competency of teachers as they play a vital role in nurturing the future nation builders.

Afzal Hossain Sarwar, policy expert, Access to Information project of UNDP, said the purpose of learning will not be fulfilled if students cannot relate real-life objects with the ones they read about in books.

Abu Hena Mostafa Kamal, director general, Directorate of Primary Education, who chaired the roundtable, mentioned that the country has around 1.3 lakh educational institutions and the government regularly arranges training programmes for teachers.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

Tourism village

FROM PAGE 3

in two phases during the five years of construction to build the facility, he said. The contract is expected to be signed soon.

Contacted, Orion Group Chairman Md Obaidul Karim said they went through a rigorous bidding process over a period of three years to become the winning bidder for the project.

"Our vision is to build an international standard hospitality service and an amusement park among other facilities at the site now limping with a dilapidated 22-room motel accommodation," he said.

Cox's Bazar is going to be Bangladesh's iconic tourism destination for locals and foreign tourists alike in near future and their investment effort is laid out in that line, he added.

As per a conceptual design, of the total land area, only 16 acres will be occupied with structures and the rest will have amusement facilities and remain as an open space. The amusement facilities would remain open free of cost for the underprivileged children once a week.

District Awami League's general secretary Mujibur Rahman and president of district unit of Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal Naimul Haq Chowdhury Tutul also spoke.



Idols of Goddess Saraswati being taken to various temples ahead of Saraswati Puja, which will take place tomorrow. As Saraswati is considered the goddess of wisdom and knowledge, Hindu devotees, especially students, celebrate the Saraswati Puja at different educational institutions and temples. The photo was taken in the capital's Bijoy Nagar area yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN



Eastern Cables Limited

North Patenga, Chittagong, Bangladesh

Invitation for International Tender Notice (OTM) for following items

01.	Ministry	Ministry of Industries.	
02.	Name of agency	Bangladesh Steel & Engineering Corporation, Dhaka.	
03.	Procuring entity name	Eastern Cables Limited, North Patenga, Chittagong.	
04.	S/ L	Reference No. & date	Cost of tender documents
1.	Aluminium Wire, Size: 9.5mm, Quantity: 500 MT	EC/PUR/F-210, 17.01.2018	Tk. 5,000.00
2.	Calcined Clay, Quantity: 6 MT	EC/PUR/F-211, 17.01.2018	Tk. 800.00
3.	Magnet Servo Motor, Type: T4C 3B, R0029 Quantity: 1 No.	EC/PUR/F-212, 17.01.2018	Tk. 700.00
4.	DC Servo Motor, Quantity: 1 No.	EC/PUR/F-213, 17.01.2018	USD-150
5.	Steel Flat Wire, Size: 4x1.2mm Quantity: 10 MT	EC/PUR/F-208®, 17.01.2018	Tk. 750.00
6.	Fork Lift Truck, Capacity: 3 MT Quantity: No.	EC/PUR/F-204®, 17.01.2018	USD-840
05.	Budget and source of funds	Own	Tender receiving and opening date and time
06.	Tendering method	One stage two envelope system (for Serial No. 6 only).	Date: 27.02.2018 Received on 11.30am Opened on 11.45am (Serial No. 1-5)
07.	Tender last selling date	06.02.2018 (tender Serial No. 6) and 26.02.2018 (Tender Serial No. 1-5).	
08.	Selling of tender documents	1. Cash Section, Controller of Accounts, BSEC, BSEC Bhaban, Dhaka-1215. 2. Cash Section, Chief Accounts Officer, ECL, Patenga, Chittagong.	
09.	Place of receiving & opening tender document	Purchase Department, Eastern Cables Limited, Patenga, Chittagong.	
10.	Eligibility of tenderer	As per tender documents.	
11.	Brief description of goods	As per tender documents specification.	
12.	Location of delivery	CFR(C) Chittagong.	
13.	Name of official inviting tender	Head of Purchase Department.	
14.	Designation of official inviting tender	Senior Purchase Officer.	
15.	Address of official inviting tender	Eastern Cables Limited, Patenga, Chittagong.	
16.	NB: S/L No: 01, Aluminium Wire	Price will be based on LME average cash settlement price of high grade Aluminium published in Metal Bulletin London for the month prior to the month of shipment plus premium, freight and local Agent Commission making CFR(C) Chittagong liner term basis. The determination of LME period on buyer option.	

Mustafizur Rahman

Head of Purchase

For Managing Director

GD-168