

Biogas plant: New door to possibilities

SHYKH SERAJ

I grew up in Dhaka city, the city that I love most. My favourite city. During our childhood, Dhaka was so beautiful. I believe it was more beautiful than many other cities I travelled. The community back then was full of life. Everyone in this city was close to one another; people were so cordial with each other. Gradually, the population in the city continued to grow. And distance started growing between one another. At present, Dhaka city has more than 20 million people. The unusual increase of population has made Dhaka a city very different from what we used to know. We see people dump garbage wherever they wish. Most of the people don't know where the garbage should be dumped. Roads, parks, open spaces - all have become free dustbins. In 2016, Dhaka City Corporation placed around 11 thousand mini-dustbins on the road. I thought the scenario will surely change. But I was wrong. We destroyed the mini-dustbins in two years. The primary education we talk about has to start from family and then comes the school learning.

The whole world is now worried about industrial waste management. Waste management is a big challenge for the farming sector, especially the poultry waste is a big concern. If waste is not properly managed, the poultry farm becomes an adversity for the environment. Besides, there are many uses of cattle waste or cow dung. Similarly, there are multipurpose uses of poultry waste

Shykh Seraj is Bangladesh's pioneer development journalist. He received country's two highest civilian honours, *Swadhinata Puroshkar* and *Ekushey Padak*, respectively. He is an Ashoka and Bangla Academy Fellow. He also received highest award for agricultural journalism from the United Nations, *FAO A.H. Boerma Award*, *Gusi Peace Prize* (Philippines) and many other prestigious accolades at home and abroad. At Channel i, he's the Founder Director and Head of News. He's also Director and Host of Channel i's popular agro-documentary, *Hridoye Mati O Manush*.



too which small farmers are not aware of. However, many farmers preserve poultry waste and use it as organic fertilizer in the field. Many people also use poultry waste as the raw material for vermicompost.



A biogas plant that produces electricity at Paragon Poultry Farm in Gazipur.

PHOTO: HRIDOYE MATI O MANUSH

About 10 to 12 years ago, Omega, a modern poultry farm, planned waste management programme. Even though the method was not completely automated, it was an effective initiative for waste management.

Creating organic fertilizer, biogas from poultry waste is an old news. I worked on biogas production during the 90s which was aired on BTV's *Mati O Manush* (Soil & People) programme. As a result, a large population was benefited. People learned about making small biogas plants at home using cow dung through which they could cook and get electricity. I was assisted with information from BCSIR. I still recollect those days when people used to send me so many letters and my wife Shahana helped me in replying to all those.

During the past three decades the world has changed a lot. Science has progressed at a tremendous speed. But an alternate environment friendly and safe technology of biofuel is yet to be discovered.

Developed countries are also turning to producing electricity from biogas (bio) power plant. There are two important aspects of it. First, it is playing an important role in waste management. Second, it is possible to contribute mentionable amount of electricity to the national grid.

A few days back, I visited Paragon Poultry Limited, located in Gazipur area. Mashiur Rahman, managing director of the organization, has also established a bio power plant. This plant uses only poultry waste and is a new initiative in the context of Bangladesh. Paragon is a successful and well-known organisation in the poultry sector of Bangladesh. By introducing their waste management programme, they revolutionized the poultry sector. They have made an instance of commercial, social and environmental industry management.

Mashiur Rahman tells me he took initiative to set up a bio power plant after being aware of its prospect

through a programme on Hridoye Mati O Manush (Soil and People in Heart). Now 350 KW of electricity is being produced from waste of 250 thousand parent stock of chicken. With it, he is able to meet the demand of 14-hours of electricity. At the same time, the produced organic fertiliser is being used in the cultivation of different crops. 100% poultry waste is being used in the power plant. This management is completely automated. Because of automated arrangements, there is no labour cost. I saw the same in Germany's Gelsen's organic power plant and gas production centre. The owners of the company are two friends - Pipa and Pepe. Now the automatic system is followed everywhere. In 2016, when working with the excellence of poultry industry, I saw the same scene in China's Shandong Province. Large poultry farms are running automatically there. They also use modern waste management method in their poultry

farms.

Paragon's chief Mashiur Rahman says that he is benefiting greatly from connecting such a bio power project with the poultry industry. If large poultry farms follow this system we would be able to contribute to our national grid as well. Many other benefits can also be enjoyed. This can be an example to follow for the whole poultry industry.

Agricultural farm management is combined with industrial management worldwide. Modern agricultural entrepreneurs look forward to this. To materialize this, new technology is needed. If this system of power generation from poultry waste is followed by large poultry farms, a part of the country's electricity needs may be met from this sector, along with supply of quality organic fertilizers. If we become aware and work hard on this, then waste itself can open the door of immense possibilities.

2 found dead in Netrakona

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Two youths were found dead in Netrakona yesterday.

Police recovered the hanging body of a youth from his house in Satpai area of the town early in the morning.

Deceased Asim Kumar Sarker, 30, son of Joy Kumar Sarker of the area, had been suffering from mental disorder for long.

Asim took his life by hanging himself from the ceiling of his room, said police and family members.

Meanwhile, the law enforcers recovered the decomposed body of a young man from Boalia Haor in Khaliajury upazila.

Identity of the victim could not be known immediately, said Md Hazrat Ali, officer-in-charge of Khaliajury Police Station.

They are investigating whether it was a murder or an accident, said the OC.

The bodies were sent to Netrakona Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsy, said police.

Elderly woman dies from burn injuries

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

An elderly woman, who sustained burn injuries on Tuesday in Panchagarh while trying to light an earthen oven with a gas lighter, died in her house yesterday.

The victim was identified as Asma Khatun, 55, wife of Abdus Sattar of Basantagach Haguragach village in Tentulia upazila.

Local UP Chairman Fazlur Rahman Liton said her sari caught fire that engulfed her body, leaving her with severe burn injuries.

Three jailed for hill cutting

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

A mobile court on Tuesday awarded jail sentence to three people on charge of constructing building by cutting hills at Mohajerpara in the town.

Of the convicts, Md Rashedul Islam got six months' imprisonment, and Md Osman Gani and Md Nasir got two days' imprisonment each.

Rashedul is also accused in an arms and robbery case.

Locals said Parvez Uddin, a Yaba trader of Chakoria upazila, who was arrested from Feni on August 8, was involved in cutting hills in Mohajerpara and constructing building there illegally.

Parvez's father-in-law Zafar Alam Mistri has been continuing the hill cutting and construction work with 20 to 25 workers for long.

"Informed by locals, the administration conducted the raid. Zafar Mistri fled the area," said Judge of the mobile court Executive Magistrate Md Nazim Uddin, also Cox's Bazar Sadar upazila's assistant commissioner (Land).

Woman murdered, farmer beaten dead

STAR COUNTRY DESK

A housewife was murdered in Faridpur on Tuesday night while a farmer was beaten to death in Manikganj yesterday.

Our Faridpur correspondent reported that a woman was killed allegedly by her husband over family feud in Nagarkanda upazila on Tuesday.

The victim, Beauty Begum, 20, wife of Mizanur Rahman of Kesabnagar village in Sadar upazila, was a worker at Jobaida-Karim Jute Mills.

Locals said Mizanur, driver of a staff bus of the jute mill, married Beauty, daughter of Chan Mia of Konanagar village in Nagarkanda upazila, about a year ago and started living at a rented house in Minarnagar area.

The couple often locked in altercation over Mizanur's drug addiction, locals alleged.

Mizanur's friend Fazlu Matbor said Mizanur phoned him around 10:00pm, saying that he went out of his house after an altercation with his wife Beauty.

Mizanur also requested him to go to his house and see the situation there, Fazlu said, adding that he, along with house owner Rina Begum, went to Mizanur's house and found Beauty's body lying on the bed.

Officer-in-Charge of Nagarkanda Police Station Mizanur Rahman said Mizanur might have strangled Beauty.

Away in Manikganj, a farmer was beaten to death over a land dispute in Ghior upazila yesterday.

The deceased was Halim Mia, 45, son of Sheikh Ansar Ali of Bhatondo village.

Family members said there was a longstanding conflict between Halim and his neighbour Abdur Rashid over the ownership of a land.

Yesterday morning, Rashid and his four associates beat Halim mercilessly when he was making a drain on the disputed land.

Critically injured Halim died on way to the upazila health complex.

Police arrested Rashid, Joynal, Hafiz and Hasna.

Mala's higher education looks bleak

The indigenous girl gets chance at DU and SUST, needs support

MINTU DESHWARA, back from Habiganj

Meritorious Mala Jhora still does not know whether she will be able to manage finance for her admission into a public university as her tea worker parents do not have the ability to support her education expenditure.

Mala, daughter of tea workers Rajkumar Jhora and Kalpona Jhora of Amu Tea Garden in Habiganj's Chunarughat upazila, is passing anxious moments as her admission to either Dhaka University (DU) or Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST) faces great uncertainty due to acute financial crisis.

Elder among two siblings, the 18-year-old girl got chance at both the public universities and obtained good positions in the merit lists as well.

She obtained GPA-5 in the SSC examinations from Amuroad High School and College in 2016 and secured GPA-4.92 in the HSC examinations from Chunarughat Government College this year.

"Although I got chance at both DU and SUST, I am still in doubt of fulfilling my dream of studying at the prestigious institutions due to my parents' acute hardship," Mala said.

"As I don't have any ability to bear my daughter's education expenditure, I told her to enrol herself at a local institution where the



Mala and her parents stand in front of their tiny hut in Amu Tea Garden area under Chunarughat upazila of Habiganj.

PHOTO: STAR

cost would be much less," Rajkumar said, adding that he and his wife each get Tk 102 as daily wage, which is not sufficient to maintain their four member family.

"We neither have any land nor any domestic animals to sell. Sometimes we pass our days half starved but my children

always concentrate on their studies," Mala's mother Kalpona Jhora said.


University Tea Students Association (UTSA) President Raju Kurmi said, "Mala was always sincere in her study. Bright future awaits her if she gets support for continuing higher study."



Devotees pray during the observance of Prabaran Purnima and Kathin Chibhar Daan, an important religious festival of the Buddhists, at Dharmapur Arya Boan Bihar in Khagrachhari town yesterday. Inset, a candlelit programme is arranged there on the occasion.

PHOTO: STAR





প্রধান প্রকৌশলীর দপ্তর
ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়
ঢাকা-১০০০
টেভার নোটিশ
(LTM পদ্ধতি)

মেমো নং-প্রকৌঃ/বিদ্যুৎ ৮৯৮(২)

তারিখঃ কার্তিক ৮, ১৪২৫ বঙ্গাব্দ
২৩/১০/২০১৮ খ্রিঃাব্দ

ক্রমিক নং	কাজের নাম	টেভার ডকুমেন্টস বিক্রির শেষ তারিখ	টেভার বক্স বন্দের তারিখ ও সময়	টেভার খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	প্রয়োজনীয় তথ্য সংগ্রহের স্থান
ক)	ড. মুহম্মদ শহীদুল্লাহ হল ও ফজলুল হক মুসলিম হলের বৈদ্যুতিক মেরামত ও সংস্কার কাজ।				
খ)	ঈশা খান রোড, ফুলার রোড ও শহীদ গিয়াস উদ্দীন আহমেদ আবাসিক এলাকার অতি পুরাতন ও নষ্ট বৈদ্যুতিক স্থাপনা (স্ট্রীট লাইট) মেরামত ও সংস্কার কাজ।	০৭/১১/২০১৮ অফিস চলাকালীন সময় পর্যন্ত।	০৮/১১/২০১৮ দুপুরঃ ১২.০০টা পর্যন্ত।	০৮/১১/২০১৮ দুপুরঃ ১২.৩০মিঃ	প্রধান প্রকৌশলীর দপ্তর, নোটিশ বোর্ড, ঢাবিঃ।
গ)	গিয়াস উদ্দীন আহমেদ আবাসিক এলাকার ৩টি মেটাল বাতি স্থাপনসহ অন্যান্য সিকিউরিটি বাতি স্থাপন কাজ।				
ঘ)	মাননীয় কোষাধ্যক্ষের বাসভবনের অফিস কক্ষে ১টি ২টন ক্ষমতাসম্পন্ন এয়ারকুলার স্থাপন এবং এমডিবি বোর্ডের সংস্কার কাজ।				

Fax: 88-02-9667222
E-mail: vcoffice@du.ac.bd, registrar@du.ac.bd
জিডি-২৪৫২

মোঃ লুৎফর রহমান
তত্ত্বাবধায়ক প্রকৌশলী (বিদ্যুৎ, জোন-১)
ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়