

Left students

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national election.

While reading out a written statement, SM Rakib Sirazi, president of DU Debating Society, said "The polling centres of Ducusu election have been set up inside halls historically. There is no objection among general students about the decision."

They also urged all student bodies not to hold any programmes which are in conflict with the electoral code of conduct.

BCL central president Rezwanul Haque Chowdhury Shovon and DU unit general secretary Saddam Hussain also spoke at the press conference.

In another development, Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal yesterday said they want coexistence of all political parties always, not only during the time of the polls.

They raised the demands after JCD leaders went to Madhur Canteen for the second consecutive day at around 11am.

"There is no political coexistence in the halls. JCD activists have started entering the campus but we do not just want Ducusu-centric coexistence. We want this democratic environment and [peaceful] coexistence to prevail in the future," JCD central general secretary Akramul Hasan told journalists.

JCD leaders remained at the canteen till 1:30 pm.

The previous Ducusu and hall union elections were held in 1990.

BIWTA DRIVE ALONG BURIGANGA

Fifty-nine structures demolished yesterday

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority yesterday knocked down 59 structures -- including a four-storey building -- at the capital's West Hazaribagh, as part of its ongoing drive to save River Buriganga from encroachment.

BIWTA Joint Director AKM Arif Uddin is leading the drive, that has continuing daily from 9am to 4pm.

Including yesterday's tally, a total of 1,489 structures have so far been bulldozed in the drive, which will continue for four more working days.

One four-storey, one three-storey, eight two-storey and three one-storey buildings were among the demolished structures.

Earlier, BIWTA identified 906 illegal structures on the bank of Buriganga from Sadarghat to Gabtoli. It started the 13-day eviction drive on January 29.

Arif said influential people are behind the encroachment. "We will not bow down to anybody and will demolish every illegal structure, as we are getting support from administration, judiciary and people," said Arif.

Meanwhile, regarding the drive, State Minister for Shipping Khalid Mahmud yesterday said no one can be more influential than the government.

During a question-answer session in parliament, he also said such eviction drives will continue.

In 2016, a taskforce was formed to save the rivers surrounding Dhaka and Chattogram, he said, adding that they took steps following its recommendations.



During the ongoing eviction drive, BIWTA bulldozes illegal structures along the river Buriganga in Dhaka yesterday.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Books

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being sold from our pavilion. However, novels and short stories are more popular among young couples."

New releases at the fair include "Desh Bhager Chhoy-ti Golpo o Tukro Kotok Smriti" by Hasan Azizul Huq and "Gypsy Nodir Dhara" by Ajit Kaur from Sahitto Prokash.

Bhasa Chitra publications brought out poetry books, including "Eksho Premer Kobita" by Mrinal Bosu Chowdhury, "Ekta Tara Hazar Raat" by Hasan Tarek Chowdhury and "Roder Taape Roudro Kini" By Salma Khanam.

Expansion of Dhaka New Market illegal: HC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

High Court yesterday declared a project undertaken to expand 178 shops on the first floor at Dhaka's New Market illegal.

The bench of Justice Sheikh Hassan Arif and Justice Razik-Al Jalil passed the order and said all allotments under the

project will be cancelled on grounds that it is contradictory to the 1951 master plan and new construction will damage the environment, Barrister Aneek R Haque told The Daily Star.

Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) undertook the project in February last year.

Alarm bells

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hand and a worsening climate and associated sea-level rise on the other."

But the researchers emphasise there is still hope. "The more of the Sundarbans that can be conserved -- via new protected areas and reducing illegal poaching -- the more resilient it will be to future climatic extremes and rising sea levels," said Professor Laurance.

"Our analyses are a preliminary picture of what could happen if we don't start to look after Bengal tigers and their critical habitats," said Dr Mukul.

"There is no other place like the Sundarbans left on earth," said Professor Laurance. "We have to look after this iconic ecosystem if we want amazing animals like the Bengal tiger to have a chance of survival."

Govt drafting

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As per section 27 (1), where an offence under this act has been committed by any agency of the government, the head of the agency shall be deemed guilty of the offence.

Addressing the workshop as chief guest, Environment, Forest and Climate Change Minister Md Shahab Uddin said maintaining a balance between development and safe environment is a major challenge for the present government.

"If biodiversity is not maintained alongside development then we will fall behind in achieving sustainable development goals within 2030," he said.

Saber Hossain Chowdhury, chairman of the parliamentary standing committee on environment, forest and climate change, said the country's air quality reaches "critical stage" during dry season, from October to March.

The law should be passed in the parliament before dry season begins, he said.

Prof Md Ali Ahammad Shoukat Chowdhury of Buet, which is helping in preparing the draft law, among others, also spoke at the workshop.

4 held in Barishal for rape, assault of minors

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barishal

Police yesterday arrested four people in Barishal city and the district's Gournadi, in connection with rape, torture and abduction of two minors.

Sub-Inspector Arobinda Biswas, second officer of Airport Police Station under Barishal Metropolitan Police, said they arrested businessman Mojibor Rahman Hawladar, his wife Shaela Rahman and their employee Masum from Luthfar Rahman Road of the city, on charges of torture and rape on a minor girl who worked as a domestic help.

Officer-in-Charge of the police station Abdur Rahman Mukur said the fourteen-year old girl was rescued from their house, and sent to Barishal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital (SBMCH) for medical tests. The arrestees were sent to jail through a court yesterday.

The victim alleged to police that she was beaten up, burnt with hot iron and spoon, and forced to starve by Mojibor and his wife Shaela regularly. Besides, Masum regularly violated her and threatened her not to disclose it.

After Masum again violated her on January 26, her employers ordered her not to disclose the matter.

On February 12, locals informed police that the girl was beaten up by her employer, police rushed to the spot and arrested the couple and their employee yesterday noon, the OC said.

Elsewhere, police arrested construction worker Bellal Mistri, 22, early yesterday from Pinglakathi area of Gournadi upazila

for abducting and raping an 11-year-old girl. Golam Sorwar, officer-in-charge of Gournadi Police Station, said grandfather of the victim lodged a case in this connection on Wednesday night.

In the case, he alleged that Bellal and his associates abducted the victim on February 11 evening when she was returning home from private tuition, confined her for two days and raped her.

Police in a drive arrested the accused, and later rescued the victim according to his information early on Thursday. The victim was sent to SBMCH for medical tests, and the arrestee was sent to jail through a court.

MAN ARRESTED FOR MURDERING COUSIN

Meanwhile, Barishal police yesterday claimed to have arrested a man for murdering his cousin, and recovered the victim's cell phone and the murder weapon from him.

Saiful Islam, Barishal district superintendent of police (SP) in a press conference at Barishal Police Line yesterday noon said they arrested Ariful Islam, 27, for killing college student Imran Hossain Haoladar, 22.

The district SP said Imran was trying to blackmail his sister-in-law, Ariful's wife, with fake obscene photos of her. After finding out about it, Ariful confronted Imran and asked him to delete the photos. At one point, Arif hacked Imran to death with a weapon he was carrying, the police official said.

Arif confessed to his offence and was sent to jail, after being produced before a court, the SP added.



The newly formed Bangladesh Administrative Service Association executive committee, led by its President Helaluddin Ahmed, places wreaths at the portrait of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in Dhaka on Wednesday.

PHOTO: PID

আহাছানিয়া মিশন নারী বান্ধবসভা চিকিৎসা ও পুনর্বাসন কেন্দ্র

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* চিকিৎসা সক্রান্ত তথ্যাদি গোপন রাখা হয়

*কেন্দ্রটি সম্পূর্ণ নারী স্টাফ দ্বারা পরিচালিত

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The job responsibilities includes but is not limited to the following:

1. To manage all aspects of the Vice Chancellor's appointment, including the effective organization of travel, meetings, committees and events involving the Vice Chancellor and his team.
2. To prepare, collate and distribute information relating to various Committees, working groups and meetings, including electronic coordination of agendas, accompanying papers, attending meetings and taking minutes and dissemination of outcomes and actions.
3. Provides administrative support and performs duties like scheduling, writing correspondence, emailing, handling visitors, routing callers, and answering questions and requests.
4. To provide other support to the Vice Chancellor's Office or senior staff as requested, for example, support at corporate events, arranging meetings, travel arrangements within Bangladesh and overseas, and project administration.
5. To update the Vice Chancellor of impending internal and external work
6. Screen calls, enquiries and requests, and deal with them as appropriate
7. To respond accurately and efficiently to all enquiries from the Vice Chancellor and his deputies, using own initiative and to liaise effectively with internal and external contacts.
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Only shortlisted candidates will be called for interview.

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Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

Female and all people living with disabilities are encouraged to apply.