

CYCLONE BULBUL

Limited tourism activities resume in Sundarbans

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

The Forest Department has decided to allow limited-scale tourism in the Sundarbans during November -- including a stop to all tourism activities between November 25 and 27 -- following cyclone Bulbul.

The decision was taken at a meeting between Tour Operators Association of Sundarbans (TOAS) and the Forest Department, at the conservator's office of Khulna yesterday.

Participants of the meeting also decided that tourists would not be allowed to enter Katka area, the part of the mangrove forest that is the most sensitive in terms of wildlife habitat.

Seven tourist vessels, which had already taken permission, were allowed to enter Sundarbans yesterday, a day after the Forest Department announced suspension of tourist access to the Sundarbans for assessment of the loss of forest and animals.

Md Moyeen Uddin Khan, conservator of forests in Khulna Circle, told The Daily Star that they will monitor whether tourism activities were going on in a limited scale.

"Considering the tourist season of Sundarbans, we took the decision," Moyeen said. "Tourists usually visit different tourist spots in the eastern part of the Sundarbans, which was not damaged during cyclone Bulbul," he also added.

Some camps, wooden pontoons, jetties and walkways were damaged in the cyclone.

At least 20 percent trees of the western part of the Sundarbans are damaged, said an official, preferring not to be named. But almost half of those will grow back, the official added.

Around 900 employees of 63 camps under four range offices of the Forest Department started the work on Monday, to assess the trail of destruction left behind by the cyclone.



Children greet President Abdul Hamid with bouquets after he landed at Tribhuvan International Airport in Nepal yesterday. His Nepalese counterpart Bidya Devi Bhandari was also present on the occasion.

PHOTO: PID

CONVICTED BY MOBILE COURTS
121 children released from correction centre

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

A hundred and 21 children -- who were convicted by mobile courts in various drives and kept at the Children Development Centre in Gazipur -- were released on Monday, in line with a High Court directive.

Of them, 11 children aged below 12 were exempted from the cases filed against them. The rest -- aged between 12 and 18 -- were released on six months' bail.

All the children were handed over to guardians around 9pm, said Ehiattuzaman, superintendent of the centre.

Further decision on those released on bail will be taken following directives of the children's court, he added.

On October 31, an HC bench ordered authorities concerned of the government to release the children following a news report published on a national daily that said mobile courts have illegally jailed 121 children for six-month to one-year and they have been kept at the Children Development Centre.

The HC bench also issued a rule asking the authorities to explain why their conviction by the mobile court should not be declared illegal.

SUDIPTO MURDER

AL leader sent to jail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A Chattogram court yesterday sent Awami League leader Didarul Alam Masum to jail in a case filed over murder of Chhatra League leader Sudipto Biswas.

The court of Chattogram Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (CMM) Md Osman Goni passed the order after Masum appeared before it with a bail petition, said Mohammad Kamruzaman, additional deputy commissioner (prosecution) of Chattogram Metropolitan Police.

Masum, general secretary of Chattogram city's Lalkhan Bazar ward unit of AL, was arrested from Dhaka's Banani on August 4 in connection with the case. He was later granted bail by the High Court.

The Appellate Division cancelled his bail and

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LAND-RELATED APPEALS

Why no appellate tribunal yet: HC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday wanted to know why the government has not formed the Land Survey Appellate Tribunal in 15 years, even after forming a law to this effect.

According to the State Acquisition and Tenancy (Amendment) Act, 2004, the government is supposed to form the appellate tribunal headed by a HC judge in order to hear and dispose of the appeals filed after the judgement and decree or order of the land survey tribunals.

Yesterday, the HC ordered the secretaries to the ministries of land and law to inform the reasons behind not forming the appellate tribunal in written within six weeks.

The HC bench of Justice M Enayetur Rahim and Justice Md Mostafizur Rahman came up with the order while hearing a writ petition filed by 59 people including Md Shah Alam from Chandpur, challenging a judgement by land survey tribunal in Chandpur.

Petitioners' lawyer Advocate Md Rafiqul Islam Faruque told The Daily Star that the tribunal on July 30 delivered a verdict in a land-related case, which went against his clients' favour.

It ordered for giving two-decimal land of total 15-decimal in Shaisharchar area under Faridganj Police Station in Chandpur to the petitioners. Aggrieved, they filed the petition.

Yesterday, the HC stayed the verdict given by the tribunal for six months and also issued a rule asking the authorities concerned to explain why it should not be scrapped, he added.

Bar associations must provide legal support to litigants

HC issues directives

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed presidents and general secretaries of all bar associations across the country to provide legal assistance to justice seekers if they fail to engage any other lawyer to defend them.

The court ordered Bangladesh Bar Council, a statutory body regulating the country's lawyers, to monitor this issue.

The HC also summoned Kishoreganj's Senior Judicial Magistrate Md Rafiqul Rabbi to appear before the court on December 3 for continuing with the trial proceedings of an extortion case despite the HC staying it earlier.

The bench of Justice Obaidul Hassan and Justice AKM Zahirul Huq came up with the order during the hearing of a bail petition filed by Md Atahar Ali and Sirajuddin, two accused in the aforementioned case.

Advocate Atiqur Rahman appeared for the petitioners while Advocate MK Rahman stood for the lawyers.

Deputy Attorney General Sarwar Hossain Bappi represented the state.

Change discriminatory mindset towards ethnic minorities: speakers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Culture of impunity and non-cooperation of the administration in getting justice are major reasons behind violence against ethnic minority communities, particularly women, speakers said at a discussion yesterday.

They also urged the government and the administration to change their discriminatory mindset towards the minority communities if they "sincerely" want to ensure a safe, secure and dignified life for the disadvantaged groups.

Bangladesh Mahila Parishad (BMP), in association with Embassy of Sweden in Dhaka, organised the discussion on rights of indigenous women at BMP office in the capital.

Speaking at the event, veteran politician Pankaj Bhattacharya said the government talks about the rights of indigenous women, but those remain confined in words only, as the reality is different.

"We didn't see a single example of justice for the violence -- including rape and murder -- against indigenous women, particularly in Chattogram Hill Tracts," he said.

A culture of impunity has been established in this country, he said. The state is not only prejudiced, but also unfriendly when it comes to women and indigenous people, he alleged.

"When a state doesn't even recognise the indigenous people constitutionally, protecting rights of indigenous women is a far cry," said Pankaj, president of Oikya Nap.

Falguni Tripura, coordinator of Bangladesh Indigenous Women Network (BIWN), said that indigenous women face three-dimensional violence -- as an indigenous person, as a woman and as an indigenous woman. To change their current state, she urged the government to empower them through ensuring their political participation and eradicating the ongoing culture of impunity.

Diabetes treatment app launched

CITY DESK

With a view to improving quality of treatment, the country's first government recognised diabetes treatment guideline was launched yesterday.

"Diabetes Care BADAS Guideline 2019" was prepared jointly by Diabetic Association of Bangladesh (BADAS) and Non-Communicable Diseases Control Programme the of Directorate General of Health Services.

Additionally, to introduce digital approach in healthcare and empower physicians, an application-based treatment approach, "Diabetes Journey" was also launched on the same day. The app was launched jointly by BADAS and Novo Nordisk, based on the new diabetes treatment guideline. The guideline and application were launched at Dhaka Club, says a press release.

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Solidarity rally at JU demands removal of vice-chancellor

JU CORRESPONDENT

Teachers and students of Jahangirnagar University (JU) yesterday resumed their protest for the removal of JU Vice Chancellor over the allegation of corruption after a two-day interval due to bad weather.

The protesters held a solidarity rally in front of JU old registrar building with several eminent citizens, teachers, distinguished personalities and political leaders around 4pm.

Blaming the VC and the government, Prof Anu Muhammad of Economics department said, "At the beginning, we demanded the formation of an investigation body but the VC rejected our demands. Now, we are demanding two investigations including BCL's attack on protesting teachers and students on November 5."

Among others, Prof Mozammel Haque; former Professor of JU Rehnuma Ahmed; Prof Gitira Nasreen; Ganasamhati Andolon's Chief Coordinator Zonayed Saki, and Bangladesh Samajtantrik Dal's General Secretary Khalequzzaman spoke at the solidarity programme.



Md Faizur Rahman, CEO of United Hospital, and Alison Shutt, commercial and international development director of Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust, at the MoU signing event.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

United Hospital partners with Royal Free Int'l

CITY DESK

United Hospital and Royal Free International, which is part of the Royal Free London (RFL) NHS Foundation Trust, signed a memorandum of understanding yesterday, said a press release.

Royal Free Hospital, Barnet Hospital, and Chase Farm Hospital in the UK are part of the trust. This collaboration will facilitate fellowship for United Hospital doctors and nurses at RFL. It was signed by Md Faizur Rahman, CEO of United Hospital, and Alison Shutt, commercial and international development director of RFL NHS Foundation Trust.

9TH WAGE BOARD FOR JOURNOS

HC questions cabinet body recommendations

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday questioned the legality of three recommendations made by the cabinet committee in the 9th wage board, regarding the income tax and gratuity of journalists and employees of newspapers and news agencies.

In the 12th chapter of 9th wage board, the cabinet committee has recommended that they [journalists and employees] will pay their income taxes by themselves, they will get one gratuity per year and decisions of the new wage board may be implemented in phases.

Yesterday, the HC issued a rule asking the respondents to show cause in four weeks why the recommendations should not be declared illegal.

In the rule, the court also asked them to explain why they should not be directed to bring journalists and employees of the electronic media under the wage board.

Secretaries to the ministries of information and labour have been made respondents to the rule, Deputy Attorney General Saifuddin Khaled told The Daily Star.

The HC bench of Justice Moyeenul Islam Chowdhury

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Job Requirements

- Academic qualifications:** Applicants should have post graduate degree with 4 years' honours/engineering in any subject/discipline from UGC approved any reputed university with at least CGPA 3.00 out of 4.00 or First Class (equivalent result) in both graduation and post-graduation level and minimum GPA 4.00 out of 5.00 in SSC and HSC levels or minimum "SB" in "O" Level & "2B" in "A" Level
- Age:** not over 30 years as on November 27, 2019
- Nationality:** Applicants must be Bangladeshi citizens

Selection Procedure

The selection process will be purely on merit basis, short-listed candidates will have to sit for competitive written test and successful candidates in written test will be called for interview.

Placement Policy and Compensation

Selected Probationary Officers shall remain on probation for a period of 1 (one) year with consolidated salary of Tk.41,900/- per month. On satisfactory completion of probationary period, Probationary Officer will be confirmed as Senior Officer in the regular scale of the Bank of Tk.52,000/- per month with other benefits.

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Other Conditions

- Candidates selected for appointment as Probationary Officer will be required to execute a Bond on non-judicial stamp for serving UCB for a minimum period of 03 years from the date of joining.
- Candidates unwilling to work anywhere in Bangladesh, need not to apply.
- Incomplete applications will not be considered for selection process.
- UCB reserves the right to accept or reject any application without any reason whatsoever and any kind of persuasion/canvassing in any stage of selection process shall be treated as disqualification.

Application Procedure

If you think, you are ready to take on challenges and meet the requirements, please apply through www.bdjobs.com with attachment of a recent passport size colour photograph and certificate/transcript of Post-graduation before November 27, 2019

For further details, please visit www.bdjobs.com or www.ucb.com.bd