

A mess

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were leaving garbage at Namabazar at nighttime. Asked, Abdul Goni, who is running the municipality as the mayor for around five years, admitted his failure to set up a landfill.

"We have been trying to buy a piece of land... Besides, we wrote to the deputy commissioner of Dhaka twice for a government land," he said, adding that the DC assured them of "trying to find one."

"Moreover, we recently made a deal with a Finland-based company that will take the garbage to generate electricity. In this regard, we sent a project proposal to the Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources for its approval," said the mayor.

Around Tk 400 crore is needed to complete the project, said Abdul Goni. "Once the project is finished, there will be a permanent solution to garbage management," he said.



Piles of garbage are left on the bank of Karnapara canal near Dhaka Aricha-highway in Savar, polluting and shrinking the waterbody. The photo was taken on Wednesday.

PHOTO: AKLAKUR RAHMAN AKASH

Work plan

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The foreign minister said the US and Bangladesh cooperate closely on a range of issues, including economics, security, governance and development.

He said a virtual meeting was convened by US Under Secretary of State for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment Keith Krach, and Adviser for Private Industry and Investment to the Prime Minister of Bangladesh Salman F Rahman recently, with a view of developing a vision for advancing US-Bangladesh economic partnership.

"We hope we will soon enter into some tangible maritime cooperation framework under this [partnership]," he said.

Bangladesh is the current vice-chair of Indian Ocean Rim Association and will assume the charges of chair in October, 2021.

Bangladesh is also the current President of the Council of the International Seabed Authority.

Dr Momen said Bangladesh promotes regional cooperation in fisheries management, sustainable utilisation of marine resources, environmental protection, disaster management and many other sectors through these regional organisations.

In fact, he said, in the context of Bay of Bengal, Bangladesh needs to develop a cooperative mechanism among the littoral states to promote collaboration and reap maximum benefits of the blue economy.

Girls'

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increased over time," it said. In April, a month into the pandemic, 61 percent of the girls had depressive symptoms, which increased to 74 in June, and 79 percent in September.

Their family's incomes have increased since April. While the lockdown was in full-swing, 69 percent of girls reported that their family income has stopped or been reduced severely, and 4 percent were directly earning themselves.

In September, when the study ended, the proportion of girls whose families had lost income decreased to 44 percent. "But households are still cutting back on important needs such as protein in meals, sanitary pads, clothing, and health services," said the study.

Ratify C190

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while only women workers report sexual harassment, she said.

"It is important to raise awareness on workplace violence and harassment issues as well as ILO's Violence and Harassment Convention (C190) so that all relevant actors can be aware of this international instrument, take an active part in policy advocacy with the government to ratify the Convention C190 in Bangladesh," she said.

Aya Matsuura, gender specialist, ILO DWT for South Asia, presented the ILO convention 190, which recognises the right of everyone to a world of work free from violence and harassment, and spoke on recommendation 206 in detail.

Prof Taslima Yasmin of Dhaka University's law department shared the findings of her study titled "Overview of Laws, Policies and Practices on Gender-Based Violence and Harassment in the World of Work."

The study, commissioned by ILO/RMGPII, found that existing laws defining and criminalising sexual offences are inadequate, and also found a lack of provisions addressing sexual harassment.

It also identified some key gaps and recommended measures to be undertaken to eliminate gender-based violence in the workplaces of

Bangladesh.

Dr Fahmida Khatun, executive director of Centre for Policy Dialogue, said as Bangladesh is set to graduate [to middle-income country], it has to comply with a lot of specific guidelines, and ratifying the C190 would be an integral part of it. "However, only ratification is not enough, as it has to be implemented at the organisational and social level," she said.

Individual organisations should have a stronger policies themselves; they have to practise that and it must ensure that the policies are being implemented properly, with a collaborative approach of both women and labour rights organisations, international bodies like ILO and the government, she said.

Humaira Aziz, director, Women and Girl's Empowerment Program, CARE Bangladesh; Nazma Akter, general secretary and executive director, Awaj Foundation; Mahjabeen Quader, senior advisor, Economic Affairs and CSR, Embassy of the Kingdoms of Netherlands; Kohinoor Mahmood, director, Bangladesh Institute of Labour Studies and Md Matiur Rahaman, deputy inspector general (Health), Department of Inspection for Factories and Establishments, among others spoke at the event,

moderated by Shamshuddoza Sajen of The Daily Star.

The court also fined the convicts Tk 10,000, in default of which they have to serve three more months in jail.

Earlier, the prosecution and defence completed their arguments and the court recorded statements of 20 prosecution witnesses including the case's complainant.

On June 9, 2014, Ayaz was hacked to death during a clash between students of Dhaka City College over a football tournament.

Following the incident, Ayaz's father advocate Shahidul Haq filed the case against six, including Jisan and Tauhidul, with Dhanmondi Police Station.

Sub-inspector Sahidul Biswas of Dhanmondi Police Station on May 13, 2015 pressed charges against six. The court framed charges against the accused on November 24, 2016.

According to case documents, Ayaz's elder brother, Ashdin Haq, a second-year student of the City College, got into an altercation with the accused over the preparation and expenses of the City College friendly football tournament on June 9, 2014.

The accused hacked Ayaz to death at Jigatala in the afternoon that day. Ayaz was taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for treatment where the doctors declared him dead.

One sentenced

FROM PAGE 3

surrender, the judge said.

The court also fined the convicts Tk 10,000, in default of which they have to serve additional three months in jail.

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Teenager killed

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knife from behind, the SI said quoting witnesses.

Ruhul was stabbed in the back, while Jisan sustained injuries on his body. Later, locals rushed them to Shaheed Mansur Ali Medical College, where doctors declared Jisan dead.


Jisan's body was kept at Dhaka Medical College morgue for autopsy and Ruhul was admitted to DMCH, where he is being treated.

Police are trying to arrest the criminals, added the SI.

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OBITUARY

Mrs. Rehana Mohsin, wife of Mr. Mohammed Mohsin, former Foreign Secretary and Diplomat, died of cardiac arrest on 8th December at Popular Medical College Hospital, Dhanmondi. She was 80.
She left behind her husband, son, daughter, two grandchildren, a great grandson and a host of relatives and well-wishers to mourn her death.
Her namaz-e-janaza will be held at the Gulshan Society mosque on Friday 11th December after Jumma prayers. She will be laid to rest at the Banani Graveyard.
Relatives, friends and well-wishers are requested to pray for the salvation of her soul.

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মহান আল্লাহ-তায়ালার অসীম করুণা ও তোমার নিরন্তর দোয়ায় ছেলে-মেয়েরা, নাতিনাতনীসহ পরিবারের সকলেই ভালো আছে। ২০২০ সাল প্রায় পুরোটাই সারা বিশ্বের জন্য বিষাদময়। কোভিড-১৯ নামক ভয়াবহ মহামারী মানব জাতিকে মারাত্মকভাবে আচ্ছন্ন করে ফেলেছে। পৃথিবীর এমন কোন দেশ নেই যেখানে এই মহামারীর ছোবল লাগে নাই। মহাশক্তিধর দেশগুলোও কঁপে উঠেছে। বাংলাদেশেও এর প্রভাব কম নয়। এই মহামারীর ছোবলে বাংলাদেশ হারিয়েছে অনেক কৃতি সন্তানকে। ব্যক্তিগতভাবে আমি হারিয়েছি আমার ঘনিষ্ঠতম বন্ধু আনোয়ারুল আলম এবং তার স্ত্রীকে। চারিদিকে এত দুঃখ কষ্ট এবং বিসাদের মাঝে একটি সুসংবাদ হলো- আমাদের নাতনী নাবিলার আরও একটি ফুটফুটে কন্যা সন্তান হয়েছে; নাম- আনিয়া।
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