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REIMAGINE RECREATE RESTORE

WorldEnvironmentDaySpecial

PHOTO: SAZZAD IBNE SAYED



WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY
JUNE 5



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Season-11



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Conditions:

- Have to complete product registration through SMS after buying Walton Fridge
- This campaign is conducted by fully computerized system fairly.
- Digital campaign facilities will be void in case of more than 3 registration of fridge from the same mobile number in a year.
- The authority reserves the right to change the campaign anytime.

This initiative is taken to ensure maximum customer facilities through research & development of products and digitalization.
Return SMS may be delayed for the technical/network problems.

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Time for Nature

MAYABEE ARANNYA

The theme for World Environment Day (WED) 2021, "Ecosystem Restoration", is the ultimate environmental call to action. We can't reverse time and prevent the damage that has already been done to our environment. But, we can rise now to restore it. What sets apart this year's WED is that it also marks the launch of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. 2021 to 2030 are the most critical years for preventing climate change by reversing the devastation already caused by the destruction of our ecosystems.

There are various types of ecosystems, such as forests, oceans, farmlands, wetlands, and cities. The responsibility for restoring these ecosystems falls on everyone – starting from the government to each individual.

Ecosystem restoration is especially important in Bangladesh. Dhaka is the second most polluted city in the world in terms of air pollution. According to a World Bank report, the monetary cost of environmental degradation in urban areas is around one percent of the national GDP annually. The UN has said that the economic benefits of ecosystem restoration initiatives exceed the investment cost by nine times while doing nothing is at least three times costlier.

We can applaud the robust economic

growth of Bangladesh, but without starting to care about rejuvenating our environment, this growth cannot be sustained.

If the economic impacts aren't enough to spur us into action, let's consider the implications of the geographic location of Bangladesh. Our country lies on the Bengal delta, which increases its risk of natural calamities such as floods, cyclones, tsunamis, and earthquakes. Rising global warming due to environmental pollution will only make things worse, especially for the 35 million people living in the coastal areas. Evidently, there is no time like the present to start doing our part.

So, what can we do to make our country, and by extension the world, greener? We can start with small individual lifestyle changes that will have a significant collective impact.

PLANT MORE

Although large-scale tree-planting initiatives can impact our air quality more significantly, we can also start at home by having indoor house

plants or gardens on our balconies and rooftops. Rapid urbanisation in our cities cannot be halted, but we can still have greenery blanketing the concrete using vertical gardening. Outdoor walls of both commercial and residential buildings can be integrated with hydration systems to support plants.

CONSUME LESS

Many campaigns will have us believe that we must replace every product and appliance at home with something supposedly more environmentally friendly to lead a greener life. This is widely known as greenwashing and only intends to make us consume more. In reality, one of the best ways to be friendlier to the environment is to return to what we all learned in school: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. We should only buy products we need or purchase second-hand, reuse packaging and recycle whenever possible to prevent even more wastes from going to the landfill.

EAT PLANT-BASED

Cutting down on meat and dairy consumption reduces

greenhouse gas emissions and excessive use of water. According to World Wildlife Fund, 75% of the world's food supply is sourced from 12 plants and five animal species. Having a greater variety of plants in our diets can help lessen the adverse impacts on agriculture and food security. While we can't all expect to turn vegetarian overnight, we can start small by cutting out animal products during the weekend or on alternative days of the week.

EMAIL RESPONSIBLY

While trying to make physical changes to our lifestyles, we should also keep our digital activities in check. Many are unaware that email pollution is real. Emails have a massive carbon footprint due to the operations of data centres collecting the information of the emails. If the receiver's life is unchanged by our email, it is best not to send it.

This is in no way an exhaustive list of all the things an individual can do to restore their ecosystem, which is why education, research and awareness are crucial to the process. As we continue to learn more, let's hope that the spirit of WED 2021 pushes us to make the changes necessary to achieve a greener Earth by 2030.





Lush greenery at Rangs Symphony, a residential project of RPL at Banani

AQIB HASIB, Dhaka

As I walk towards Rangs Properties Limited (RPL) on Bir Uttam Mir Shawkat Sarak, the Rangs Babylonia building catches my eye. In a city of grey, Babylonia sticks out, covered in green it almost feels refreshing to look at.

RPL has been engaged in green architecture for the last four to five years. While trends are often seen a vital to any real estate company, RPL prefers to avoid going with the trend. Their goal is to bring sustainability into their buildings, and it seems they are the ones setting the trend.

I sat down with Mashid Rahman, Managing Director of RPL to get a better understanding of their green journey.



Mashid Rahman, Managing Director of RPL

How did Rangs get started with this green initiative?

Well a little while back, I remember reading about an initiative in the World Economic Forum (WEF), where Mexico built vertical gardens along the side of their flyovers. It was very interesting, and I realized how in Bangladesh, there isn't space to grow horizontally, but there was a potential for vertical growth. So, we tried implementing that



Green Fence at RFPL's Zed Kingsdale, Chattogram



RPL's Green Fence at capital's Gulshan avenue

into our buildings. We created the green fence, where we set up a fence of plants even before construction begins. And then after construction, we also have vertical greenery along the length of our buildings. For example, we did a stunning vertical green at one of our projects named Lake Placid situated at Gulshan. We have been doing the same thing for Rangs FC Properties Ltd. (RFPL), our other concern at Chattogram. Recently we have replicated vertical green at a beautiful residence named Memory 71 at Panchlaish, Chattogram.



RFPL's recent project "Memory 71" featuring green facade

Where do you think RPL's initiative really stands out?

Well, firstly, no one else is doing this right now in Bangladesh. And our approach to green architecture is unique. We have focused on sustainability, which led to us using geotextile in our green fence, which is more sustainable, leak-proof and 40% cheaper than what is normally used in such a fence. As Dhaka sees record high temperatures, our buildings will be 3-4 degrees cooler from the plants. Certain plants also help prevent mosquitoes and other insects. I also think that as green is a cooler colour also makes our buildings very relaxing to look at.

Where do you hope to see RPL in the future?

We think there's a lot of potentials that real-estate



Integration of Green at RPL's Lake Placid located at Gulshan

companies can look to, mostly on the green side of things. I think a big success for us will be when other companies start their own green architecture taking influence from us. I want to take Dhaka from being this concrete jungle to the green Dhaka of my own childhood.



RFPL's HQ at Chattogram



Rangs Babylonia at Tejgaon I/A

United Group is one of the largest Socio-Economic infrastructure-based Business Conglomerates in Bangladesh. With diversified investments in Power, Healthcare, Real Estate & Construction, Education, Manufacturing & Textile, Ports & Maritime, Tank Terminal & Fuel Handling, Services and Retail sectors.

United Group always keeps the environment in mind while investing in any of the sectors. Starting from obtaining higher efficiency in our power plants to eco friendly designs to tree plantation. Bringing incremental yet consistent changes within all establishments.

*Devoted to our
environment*



Power Sector

Carbon emission reduction activities:

1. Generation of steam for industrial use through high efficiency heat recovery boilers. Utilizing the burnt gases ejected from the engine to produce the steam.
2. Generation of an additional 60 MW of electricity without any fuel consumption by utilizing waste heat recovery.
3. Investment in Effluent Treatment Plants and Waste Treatment Plants to ensure least amount of environmental impact.
4. Sludge treatment plants in our power plants, designed by UEPSL (In house Operation & Maintenance team), evaporates the water in fuel sludge which is environment friendly

All power plants comply with 'zero discharge' plan, protecting our rivers from pollution

Real Estate Sector

Our Real Estate Sector approaches its projects with sustainability in mind and our designs are squarely aimed at achieving carbon neutrality.

1. Double-glazed glass and intelligently designed structures ensuring smooth air flow to keep temperatures cool reducing the need to use air conditioners
2. Sustainable Waste Management setups to ensure an efficient and clean disposal.
3. Eco-friendly and creative designs incorporate greenery to make aesthetically pleasing facades that have a natural ambiance.

IT Sector

Contributing to a reduction in the carbon footprint by:

Reducing paper and toner usage through business automation.

Education Sector

Enlightening the need to conserve the environment into our young minds through:

Plantation programs taken by Sir John Wilson school to add more than 1500 trees to the surroundings, even throughout the pandemic situation.

Manufacturing Sector

Substantial investment across all establishments to reduce adverse impact on the environment by utilizing:

1. Water Treatment Plants – Cleans intake water to better increase all equipment efficiency.
2. Effluent Treatment Plants – Removes environmentally harmful substances from any discharge.
3. Exhaust Gas Treatment plant – Reduces the impact of exhaust gases on the environment by removing particles of ash/sulfur/carbon etc.

Healthcare Sector

Bringing Efficiency through:

1. Vapor absorption chiller – A 300 TR chiller reduces energy consumed by up to 200kWh per month. It utilizes waste heat of the generators in the hospital to provide cooling throughout.
2. Hospital wastewater is being released after treatment through Effluent Treatment Plant and Sewage Treatment Plant by strictly adhering to wastewater discharge parameters of the Dept. of Environment.

Social Welfare Wing

1. Educating rural people on usage of proper sanitation. Building Toilets free of cost in those regions which have the need. Till date thousands of such projects have been successfully implemented.
2. Arranging tree plantation programs on a large scale throughout the districts of Jamalpur, Kishoreganj, Feni and Mymensingh, among others.

United Group's endeavors in sustainability stands as a testament to our commitment to Mother nature. Our drive will push us towards further innovation in new mediums to look after the environment.

Indoor Gardening for Beginners

RAMEESA MALIHA JAMEEL

It's the weekend again and you're pretty much stuck indoors, for there's a deadly virus lurking outside.

You've already gone through half of Netflix's streaming library. Your fridge probably can't house any more of the end products of your culinary



experimentation. Besides, there are only so many times you can re-read your favourite books and magazines.

Why not put yourself to work on a new creative project?

Behold, indoor gardening!

BUILD YOUR OWN INDOOR GARDENING KIT

To get yourself started, you'll have to shop for options online. Fix a suitable budget, and then proceed to make a list of everything you'll need to prepare an indoor garden of your own. Your list should include the following: seeds/plant shoots/leaves, planters, indoor plant fertilizers, and potting soil. From here on, you can customise however you please. If you intend to focus on a minimalistic indoor garden that won't require much space or effort, you might consider growing your own herbs for instance. Set up mint, basil, or oregano planters by the windowsill for ease of access and you're good to go. For something more elaborate, you could opt for themed planters to create a fairy garden consisting of succulents and mini lanterns which can easily brighten up any corner of your house.

GARDENING DOS AND DON'TS

In order to take upon the role of a responsible plant parent, you must



remember to tend to your plants' needs. Some key factors in this regard include: room for growth, exposure to light, provision of nutrients, and frequency of hydration. If you're purchasing seed



SHARE THE JOY OF GARDENING

Once your green thumb has been well-exercised over time, why not spread the love by gifting gardening starter kits to your loved ones? You can include either plant cuttings or packaged seeds in your kits. For affordable flower tubs designed to be both functional and decorative, try TEL Plastics, where you'll find a variety of planters ranging from smaller hanging tubs to larger vertical tubs and deluxe rooftop tubs.



packets, be sure to consult the label on the packaging for information on germination specific to that particular plant. Beginners are always advised to exercise their green thumbs by starting off with smaller plants that have minimal requirements. As you work your way to becoming an expert, you'll have to keep in mind the right kind of potting soil and nutrients, the appropriate foliage, the optimum environmental conditions, and the necessary measures for disinfection and cleanliness.



দুটো পরিপূর্ণ গাছ,
একটি পরিবারের
এক বছরের
অক্সিজেন যোগায়

একটি গাছ বছরে ২৬০ পাউন্ড অক্সিজেন নিষ্কৃত করে, আর দুটো পূর্ণ বয়স্ক গাছ একটি চারজনের পরিবারের জন্য এক বছরের অক্সিজেন তৈরি করতে পারে, তাই পরিবেশ বাঁচাতে গাছ রোপন করি নিয়মিত।



THE ART OF LIFE

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Building on solid foundations of our core design concerns – functionality, durability, comfort and safety – Bay aims to reduce the environmental impact of construction.

World Environment DayThe Bay logo features a stylized white triangle to the left of the word "Bay" in a bold, sans-serif font.baydevelopments.com