

Tree felling spells doom for birds

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

When Rajshahi Medical College Hospital authorities felled a tree on Saturday afternoon, it still housed a couple of nests for Asian open-bill storks.

The tree felling was part of an RMCH project, which has plans to chop down around 50 trees to clear space for constructing a garage and a drain to solve waterlogging in the area.

But the development work comes at the cost of avian lives, as nearly a hundred of the Asian open-bill storks and their offspring died in the aftermath.

On Saturday afternoon, some 30 storks and their chicks died after falling off the felled tree, witnesses and hospital officials said.

Later, labourers and locals picked up around 30 more storks and took them home, while some 20 storks were slaughtered on the spot. More than 20 others were seen lying dead around the tree, locals said.

Ornithologists -- zoologists who specialise in birds -- said this indiscriminate felling of trees is severely damaging for the bird species of the area, especially during the ongoing breeding season.

In addition, bird nests on neighbouring trees also become vulnerable to the wind, experts and bird lovers said.

They added that the hospital authorities had cut down trees last year, and were moving to do it yet again this year.

"Felling trees when birds are raising eggs and chicks in their nests is cruel and illegal," said Prof Aminuzzaman Md Saleh Reza of Rajshahi University's Zoology department.

"Rather than destroying lives this way, the authorities could have taken measured

steps in co-ordination with experts and environmentalists," he said.

He said bird species including Asian open-bill stork, cormorants, black crown night heron, and crows have been nesting on RMCH's trees for many years.

Storks breed between June and November, while herons and cormorants breed between March and October, he explained.

Visiting the spot on Sunday morning, this correspondent saw an Asian open-bill stork chick fall from a neighbouring tree after its nest collapsed due to strong winds.

It was then taken away by a labourer working on the drain construction project.

This correspondent also witnessed storks, herons, and cormorants flying from tree to tree, trying to build new nests, as the tree felling continued.

Meanwhile, RMCH director Brig Gen Shamim Yazdani acknowledged and apologised for the incident.

"We're extremely sorry and ashamed of what happened. We will not let this happen again," the director told The Daily Star.

But he said the works were not carried out according to plan. "We only had plans to cut down a part of the tree's root, but some labourers just chopped the whole thing down."



Merely hours after the Arjun tree at RMCH was felled on Saturday, nests from neighbouring trees also started getting damaged by the wind, while chicks that still cannot fly kept falling off them.

PHOTO: STAR

Asked why they are continuing to cut down more trees, Brig Gen Shamim said they're only cutting down the trees that do not house any birds, following local forest officials' instructions.

Prof Aminuzzaman said the authorities need to remember that storks do not establish their colonies according to human convenience, they settle down wherever they find food and security.

"We are not saying development activities should be stopped, we just want them to be carried out in a sustainable way, on the months when the breeding season is over," he said.



Global citizens condemn

FROM PAGE 3
humanitarian and economic crisis unfolding in Afghanistan.

Presenting the resolution, Afghan-Australian human rights attorney Kobra Moradi said, "We must do everything to ensure that an inclusive political system is negotiated where the rights and safety of everyone regardless of their gender, age, ethnicity, and religion is guaranteed."

Pakistani human rights defender Sheema Kermani said, "We the women of Pakistan stand with the women and all vulnerable groups of Afghanistan against militarism,

fundamentalism, and fascism. None of us are free until the women of Afghanistan are free."

Expressing solidarity with all vulnerable groups including artists, LGBT and religious minorities, who are under threat, she said, "We uphold the principles of equality and secularism as the backbone of the protection of these rights."

Turkish writer and human rights defender Zeynep Oral said the NATO occupation led by the USA, which lasted for 20 years, did not bring peace or democracy to the people of Afghanistan.

On the other hand, the

Taliban administration poses a huge threat primarily for women and children as well as for all people of Afghanistan.

Eminent Pashtun scholar and human rights defender Fazal ur Rehman said the Taliban takeover will further increase enmities between the north and south of Afghanistan. Tajiks, Uzbeks and even Hazaras will feel threatened, isolated and betrayed.

Nepal's rights activist Yubanath Lamasal, Uyghur rights activist of Uzbekistan Sobo Kosimova and British security and political analyst Chris Blackburn also spoke, among others.

Dr Ibrahim's death anniv today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 32nd death anniversary of National Professor Dr Mohammad Ibrahim, also founder of the Diabetic Association of Bangladesh.

Different associate organisations will place wreaths at his grave in the capital's Banani Graveyard at 8am, said a press release.

A discussion titled "Ibrahim Memorial Oration" will also be held virtually at 2pm.

Special Adviser of World Federation for Medical Education Janet Grant will give a lecture at the programme, presided over by Diabetic Association of Bangladesh president Prof AK Azad Khan. Each year, the association observed the day as "Diabetics Service Day". But this year, due to the Covid-19, the programme is curtailed.

On this day in 1989, Dr Ibrahim died from a cardiac arrest at his residence.

Prof Noman's death anniv

CITY DESK

The 25th death anniversary of Prof Mohammed Noman, an educationist and former vice chancellor of Jahangirnagar University, will be observed today, said a press release.

On the occasion, a Qurankhwani and milad mahfil, organised by his family members, will be held. Besides, food will be distributed among the destitute at orphanages and special prayers will be offered at mosque.

Professor Noman Smriti Foundation will organise elaborate programmes to observe the death anniversary of Prof Noman.

Prof Noman was a recipient of "Ekushey Padak" and President Gold Medal.

Always

FROM PAGE 3
efficiently in the future. She said efficient, qualified and IT knowledge-based future leadership would be able to make the navy and air force more modern and time befitting.

In this regard, the premier asked the members of the selection board to make sure that efficient and qualified officers are not deprived of promotion.

Describing the success stories of the navy and air force, Hasina also said, they are now recognised as very disciplined and efficient forces at home and abroad.

CUMILLA MEDICAL COLLEGE HOSPITAL Acute scarcity of nitrous oxide hampers surgery

KHALID BIN NAZRUL, Cumilla

A lack of nitrous oxide supply -- needed for anesthesia during surgeries -- is putting patients at Cumilla Medical College Hospital in difficulty.

The issue has been persisting since June this year. On the 24th of that month, Spectra Oxygen Ltd -- the enlisted supplier of oxygen and nitrous oxide to the hospital -- issued a letter explaining their inability to keep up regular production and supply due to a shortage of raw materials.

Confirming the matter, Abdul Awal Sohel, junior consultant of the hospital's surgery department, said "The suppliers have informed us of the crisis. Since surgeries require anaesthetic procedures, we're facing problem right now."

A surgeon of the hospital, wishing anonymity, said, "Regular surgery schedules are being hampered due to the lack of nitrous oxide."

Another specialist doctor said, "There were times in July and August when we couldn't proceed with surgeries due to the issue. Patients suffered immensely."

As Spectra Oxygen failed to fulfil demand, the hospital authorities even tried contacting industrial gas company Linde Bangladesh Ltd for it, but still could not secure supplies, sources said.

According to hospital sources, Spectra has been supplying oxygen and nitrous oxide as an enlisted supplier for a number of years. Recently, Linde has started supplying liquid oxygen, but not nitrous oxide.

However, some doctors, wishing anonymity, have pointed fingers at the suppliers, citing their negligence as the cause of the shortage, as the hospital's surgery waiting list keeps growing.

The Daily Star has also obtained an audio clip of a phone call between a surgeon of the hospital and a distribution officer of Spectra Oxygen.

In the clip, the surgeon asks the distribution officer why there's a lack of nitrous oxide in the hospital when private hospitals in Cumilla are facing no such crisis.

The distribution officer said private hospitals have supplies as they source the gas from Linde Bangladesh Ltd. Contacted, Spectra Oxygen Ltd Cumilla depo's distribution officer Tauhidur Rahman Sajal said, "Cumilla Medical College Hospital requires an average of 25 cylinders of nitrous oxide, each weighing 30kg."

"There was a crisis in the last few months as we could only supply 16 cylinders in June, two in July, and six in August. Hopefully, we can avert such a crisis in the coming days."

Meanwhile, this correspondent found no such crisis in private hospitals in Cumilla. He also found no such crisis in the capital, as Kazi Aminur Rahman, distribution officer of Spectra Oxygen Ltd's Dhaka depo, told The Daily Star, "There is no crisis of the gas in Dhaka city at the moment."

Contacted, hospital director Dr Mohiuddin said, "The crisis will be solved very soon. Though there was a crisis of nitrous oxide, but we are continuing emergency, casualties, and gynaecological surgery."



Halima Rahman passes away

CITY DESK

Halima Rahman, wife of late Sk Wahidur Rahman, former chairman and director of Pubali Bank Limited's Board of Directors, and mother of Azizur Rahman, director of the bank, passed away at a hospital in New York, USA on Saturday.

The board of directors of the bank and all levels of executives, officers and employees have expressed deep shock at the death, said a press release.

Pubali family prayed for the salvation of the departed soul and extended deepest condolence to the bereaved family.

Another dies

FROM PAGE 3

Health Services data shows.

DGHS on August 23 dedicated six hospitals to treating dengue patients.

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Accounting/ Dispatch Positions in Bangladesh USA based ground transportation logistics company seeking candidates with the following qualifications:

1. Fluent in English (spoken, reading & writing).
2. Able to use computer and internet.
3. Familiar with Microsoft Office.
4. Can adapt to new technology easily.
5. A team player.
6. Has Accounting background. Please send your resume to workstationusa@gmail.com for an assessment. Resumes will be reviewed and candidates will be contacted accordingly.

LankaBangla Finance Limited

Safara Tower (Level 11), 20, Renal, Astor Avenue, Banani, Dhaka 1213

Phone: +88 02 22238700-10; Fax: +88 02 26810986; E-mail: info@lankabangla.com

Price Sensitive Information

This is for information of all the concerned that Bangladesh Securities & Exchange Commission vide its letter number BSEC/CI/D5-148/2021/509 dated September 5, 2021 has approved issuance of Non-Convertible Zero-coupon Bond amounting to BDT 300 (three hundred) crore in face value (divided in 3,000 units of BDT 10,00,000 each) by LankaBangla Finance Limited through private placement in cash consideration to meet its ongoing financial requirements. The consent has been accorded subject to the condition that the company shall comply with the relevant laws and regulatory requirements, and also shall adhere with the conditions imposed under Section-20C of the Securities and Exchange Ordinance, 1969.

The Information Memorandum (IM) of the aforesaid Non-Convertible Zero-coupon Bond will be published in the official website at: www.lankabangla.com in due course.

Dated : September 5, 2021

By order of the Board
Sd/-
Mostafa Kamal FCA
Company Secretary

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FINANCE



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

The World Health Organization Emergency Sub-Office in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh invites proposals/bids using "Two-envelope system" from the interested Companies in Bangladesh for the following service:

1. CXB_RFP/2021/017: Health Care Waste Management (HCWM) Hub Design and BOQ Development

Deadline for the submission of RFP: 14:00hrs, 19 September 2021.

Interested Companies can view and download the relevant RFP documents from:

<https://www.who.int/bangladesh/about-us/procurement-notice>

Interested bidders are requested to submit their financial and technical proposals in two separate sealed envelopes as per the instructions provided in the RFP documents at the Reception of **WHO Emergency Sub-Office, Hotel Sea Palace Ltd (western wing-1st floor), Kolatali Road, Cox's Bazar-4700, Bangladesh.** Or Bidder may submit their Proposal in two separate file (Technical and Financial) by email sebanxcbbprocurement@who.int

Padma Oil Company Limited
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation)
Strand Road, Sadarghat, Chattogram

e-Tender Notice
e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal <http://www.eprocure.gov.bd> for the works:

Tender ID No. & Tender Reference	Name of works	Tender publishing date & time in e-GP	Last date & time of tender selling	Last date & time of tender security submission	Date & time of tender closing
598864, E&P/CapeX-09/F-21/P-106/20-21	Increasing Height of Bund wall of Tank Nos. 05, 06, 08 & 15 at Tank Farm Area at Daulatpur Depot, Khulna	02-Sep-2021 at 1100 Hrs	26-Sep-2021 at 1400 Hrs	27-Sep-2021 at 1200 Hrs	27-Sep-2021 at 1400 Hrs

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (as above) is required.

C.M. Ziaul Hasan
DGM (Engineering & Planning)
Padma Oil Company Limited
Strand Road, Sadarghat, Chattogram
Phone: 031-633243, Fax: 031-612668
E-mail: cmzhassan@yahoo.com

GD-1583

Bangladesh Bank
Head Office, Dhaka

Corrigendum

Number of documents	Types	Published terms & conditions	Revised terms & conditions to be published
Tender No. CSD-1 (EQUIP)69(3)/2021-27	7.1 Technical Specification: (17) Interface & Ports	Min ^m 6 USB 3.1 ports and Min ^m 4 USB 2.0, 1 headphone, 1 audio in, 1 audio out, 1 VGA, 1 RJ-45 Ethernet, 1 Display Port, 1 HDMI/Display	USB Ports Min ^m 6 USB 3.1 ports and Min ^m 4 USB 2.0, Headphone/audio in & out/combo port, Ethernet Port: 1 RJ-45, Display Port: Minimum One (1), Display Port/HDMI/VGA: Minimum One (1)
Published online Dated: 17/08/2021	General Specification: ITT 14.1(b)	The minimum specific experience as Supplier in supply of similar Goods of at least two (02) contract(s) of similar nature successfully completed within the last three (3) years, each with a value of at least six crore (BDT 6,00,00,000).	The minimum specific experience as Supplier in supply of similar Goods (PC/Laptop/Server/Tablet) of at least two (02) contract(s) of similar nature successfully completed within the five (05) years, each with a value of at least six crore (BDT 6,00,00,000).

ব্যাংকিং ও আর্থিক সেবা পেতে হয়রানির শিকার হলে কিংবা কোনো অভিযোগ থাকলে ১৬২৩৬ নম্বরে ফোন করুন।

Md. Abul Kalam Azad
General Manager
Common Services Department-1
E-mail: ma.azad@bb.org.bd

ডিসিপিং: ৪৮/২০২১-২৬২১
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