



The five artificial canopy bridges -- the first of their kind for Lawachhara -- will allow Hoolock gibbons, as well as other animals, to cross the schisms created in the National Park by the Srimangal-Bhanugach road and the Dhaka-Sylhet railway line.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

Good news for gibbons

Canopy corridors set up in Lawachhara to facilitate their free movement

MINTU DESHWARA, Moulvibazar

Gibbons are one of the most critically endangered primates in Bangladesh. Though once a prominent species, their numbers have dwindled due to continued loss of habitat and hunting.

To preserve their habitat in Bangladesh, five canopy bridges have been constructed in Moulvibazar's Lawachhara national forest, to facilitate the free movement of Hoolock gibbons who inhabit the area.

This was done to create a connection between two sides of the forest cut across by a railway and a road. The bridges were built by tying ropes between branches of two tall trees on either side of the divide, which the gibbons can use as crossings, said Rezaul Karim Chowdhury, divisional forest officer of the Department of Wildlife Management and Nature Conservation.

Shamsul Haque, joint convener of Lawachhara Bon O Jibobochitro Rokkha Andolan (Lawachhara Forest and Biodiversity Conservation Movement) said, the Dhaka-Sylhet railway line and

the Srimangal-Bhanugach road cut through the Lawachhara National Park, dividing it into two sides.

The road and railways are very wide, he said, which means most inhabitants of the forest cannot jump across from one tree to another.

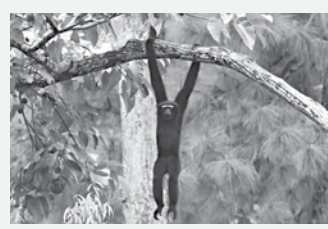
The canopies were set up between September 2 and 5. Though three tree bridges were built in Satchhari National Park for civets recently, this is the first time these bridges have been set up in Lawachhara, forest officials said.

A six-member research team under the supervision of Dr Habibun Nahar, associate professor of Jagannath University, has undertaken the initiative, funded by Bangladesh Forest Department.

According to a 2019 survey, there are 40 to 41 Hoolocks from 13 families in Lawachhara National Park. In 2008, there were 35.

According to a 2016 survey, there were 400 Hoolocks across 22 areas in the country, including in Lawachhara, Adampur, Satchhari, Rema-Kalenga, all in Sylhet region.

Habibun Nahar, associate professor of Jagannath University's



Gibbons are critically endangered primates

Numbers dwindling for loss of habitat, hunting

5 canopy corridors set up To create connection between 2 sides of forest

Bridges built by tying ropes between branches of 2 tall trees

Department of Zoology, has observed Hoolock gibbons' movement in the area since 2019.

Talking to this correspondent, Nahar, also leader of the research team, said, "During noon, there are no trains travelling on the railway. If the gibbons could, they would crossover [to the other side] during

this time. Unfortunately, they can't do that due to the way the forests are disconnected."

"Lawachhara has a suitable environment for Hoolock gibbons. Their population is growing. But if they are confined within a limited space, there will be competition. The canopy initiative was thus undertaken to allow them to breed more freely," she said.

"Initially, the artificial canopy bridges have been set up at five places in Lawachhara, funded by the forest department," she said. "We will be monitoring these. If they yield good results, we will build similar structures in other places of the country."

She said an adult gibbon is about 60 to 90 centimetres long and weighs six to nine kilograms. Although male and female gibbons are almost identical in size, there are significant differences in skin colour.

A male gibbon is coated with black fur and has white eyebrows, while a female gibbon has grey-brown hair all over her body. The hair around their neck is blacker and eyes and mouth are covered with white fur, like a mask.

Father, two sons die as train hits auto-rickshaw

STAR REPORT

A man and his two sons were killed and another was injured as a train hit a CNG-run auto-rickshaw in Ashuganj upazila of Brahmanbaria early yesterday.

The accident took place on a level crossing at Talshahar around 4:45am, said Brahmanbaria Railway Police Outpost sub-inspector Salauddin Khan.

Pavel (23) died instantly, while his father Sadek Miah (75) and brother Rubel (32) succumbed to their injuries at Brahmanbaria General Hospital.

All the victims hailed from Sadar upazila. They were going to Dhaka for Sadek's eye treatment, said police. The injured -- auto-rickshaw driver Shiru Miah -- was referred to Dhaka for better treatment.

Meanwhile, two people were killed as a covered-van hit a motorbike they were on in Sakhipur upazila of Tangail on Saturday night. Deceased Arafat Hossain from Natore and Delwar Hossain from Dinajpur used to work as medical representatives of ACME and Glutech respectively.

The accident took place on Dhaka-Sakhipur road in Protima Bonki area around 10:30pm. They died on the spot.

Ibrahim Khalil's first death anniversary today

CITY DESK

Today is the first death anniversary of Dr Md Ibrahim Khalil, chief geologist of Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission, said a press release.



On this day last year, he passed away with Covid-19 infection, at the age of 48. He left behind his wife, two daughters and a son. His only elder brother Mohammad Ismail, director of Gungchil Ltd, sought prayers from all for the salvation of the departed soul.

Small vehicles

FROM PAGE 3 accidents. "So we need to be more active in this regard," he added.

The minister said three-wheelers are banned on 22 highways but small vehicles are operating due to lack of monitoring. "So monitoring should be strengthened, involving police and local administration," he added.

Talking about road safety issues, he said World Bank on several occasions expressed interest to invest in a road safety project, but it is now delaying its decision.

"If they make any further delay, we have to go ahead with our own fund," he added.

The minister also directed the RHD authorities to expedite their works for roads and bridges to make up the delays caused by the pandemic.

State now 'backing corruption': BNP

UNB, Dhaka

Criticising the prime minister for her remarks on the demolition of around 300 houses under the Ashrayan-2 Project, the BNP standing committee alleged that the state is now "backing corruption".

The premier's remark on having the list of those who damaged the houses is tantamount to supporting the corruption of Awami League-backed contractors and partisan bureaucrats in the project, BNP said.

At a weekly virtual meeting on Saturday, BNP said the AL government is giving corruption an "institutional shape", said a press release yesterday.

On Thursday, the PM alleged that some people damaged the houses, given by her government to the homeless and the media published photos of those broken houses. Hasina said she has got the details of the culprits, after a probe.

BNP also condemned the statement of the state minister for information and broadcasting on removing the museum named after Ziaur Rahman at the old circuit house in Chattogram.

"People will never accept such a decision."

Welcome

FROM PAGE 3

Shammridhi Swasty, a fourth grader at Khulna Government Girls' High school, told The Daily Star that she felt suffocated having to wear a mask throughout school hours. However, she said her teachers said they'll allow students to take off their masks for a while if they feel ill.

In Tangail, students had to overcome quite the challenge to get back to their campuses, though they were only too happy to do it.

As at least 429 schools of the district's low-lying areas were flooded recently, students had to plough through the stagnant water to reach their campuses.

Salma Akter, a fifth grader of Basail South Govt Primary School, said, "It was the first day of school and I didn't want to miss the chance to meet my friends and teachers. So I took a boat with a couple of neighbouring students to come to school."

(Our correspondents from Chattogram, Barishal, Rajshahi, Sylhet, Rangpur, Khulna and Tangail contributed to this report.)

A visa scam run

FROM PAGE 3

family members. He deposited Tk 55.37 lakh to two bank accounts and paid Tk 20 lakh in cash to Rosy's mother, Farida.

Talking to The Daily Star, Khairul Islam, also from Jhalakathi, said, "Rosy is a long-time family friend. She reintroduced herself as the current consular general of the Sydney Immigration Office. She said she would sponsor us."

Rosy told them via email that no direct interviews would be held because of Covid-19. After receiving the "visa application fees," Rosy sent them application file numbers, medical examination forms, signed medicare forms, as well as air tickets.


On June 13, a man named Akash, introducing himself as an officer at VFS Global Bangladesh Pvt Ltd., asked Khairul to report to the VFS Office on June 17.

When Khairul went there, the VFS authorities said all the documents they had been sent were fake.

On Saturday, the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) of police arrested two members of the racket -- Saimun Islam (26) and Ashfakuzzaman Khandaker (26) -- from the capital's Khilgaon area over impersonating VFS officers and forging visa documents.

They seized seven fake visa grant notices, five fake health care cards, six fake air tickets and two mobile phones, from their possessions.

At a press briefing yesterday, Imam Hossain, additional DIG of CID, said Rosy had been living in Australia for over a decade and that she had embezzled crores by conning visa aspirants. "We would talk to National Central Bureau (NCB) in Dhaka to get her back from Australia."



North South University

Center of excellence in higher education

ENLISTMENT NOTICE

Applications are hereby invited from the bona fide firms for Enlistment as qualified vendors of the North South University for the fiscal year 2021-2023. The firms who are engaged in business of the following items may apply:

Category No.	Items
Category - 01	Brand/Clone Computer, Printer, Scanner, Computer Accessories & Printer Toner/Cartridge.
Category - 02	Photocopier machine, toner of photocopier and repairing.
Category - 03	Office stationery & cleaning items
Category - 04	Furniture (Wooden & Steel).
Category - 05	Networking equipment & accessories.
Category - 06	Chemicals, accessories, reagents, glasswares & lab equipment
Category - 07	Printing materials (Printing Press).
Category - 08	Light and audio visual products (MVP, Sound systems) etc.
Category - 09	Hardware and mechanical items
Category - 10	Plumbing and sanitary items
Category - 11	Electrical items
Category - 12	Repairing & servicing lab instrument (Physics & Engineering lab and Health & Life Sciences lab)
Category - 13	Supply and erection of signage etc.
Category - 14	Supply of civil, electrical and mechanical construction materials, equipment and works
Category - 15	Decorator works for events
Category - 16	Land topographical and geotechnical survey

Vendors are requested to submit their applications with the following documents:

- Valid Trade License, b) Certificate of Incorporation (if any), c) Income Tax Certificate, d) VAT Registration Certificate, e) Bank Solvency Certificate, f) List of Clients, g) Brief profile of the firm, h) Distributorship/Agency/Dealership/Importer Certificate and any other relevant papers.

The vendors must have minimum 3 years supply record. One vendor may submit application for more than one category but have to be submitted separately.

Applications are to be submitted to the undersigned on or before **September 30, 2021 within 2:00p.m.** at the same time requested to mention the category name and number on the top of the envelop.

Director, Internal Affairs
NORTH SOUTH UNIVERSITY
 Bashundhara, Dhaka-1229
 Phone: +88-02-55668200, Ext. 1204, Fax: +88-02-55668202
 E-mail to: procurement@northsouth.edu, Web: www.northsouth.edu

MOUNT ARARAT

Singer Bangladesh takes part in expedition

CITY DESK

To draw attention to climate change and climate action, Singer Bangladesh Limited has participated in an expedition to climb the 5,137-metre Mount Ararat, Turkey's highest mountain.

It was an initiative by Singer Bangladesh's parent organisation Koc Holding and Arcelik Turkey, said a press release.


From Singer Bangladesh, assistant manager (accounts) Mahfuzur Rahman participated in the expedition comprising a team of 16.

MP Shimul

FROM PAGE 3 represented the ACC and state respectively.


On March 31, police's immigration department sent a report, containing names and addresses of 13,931 Bangladeshi nationals with dual citizenships and dual passports, to the attorney general's office for placing it to the HC. In the report, the officials have mentioned the present addresses of 13,931 Bangladeshi nationals at home and foreign countries.

The report was later placed before the HC bench. On December 21 last year, the HC sought a list of names and addresses of Bangladeshi nationals with dual citizenships and passports, who have purchased houses abroad by laundering money.



BANGLADESH BANK

FINANCIAL INCLUSION DEPARTMENT
 HEAD OFFICE
 DHAKA
 Website: www.bb.org.bd



"মুজিববর্ষের অঙ্গীকার"
 দেশী পণ্যের ব্যবহার

Request for Expression of Interest (EoI) for Selection of Consulting Firm

- Procuring Entity Name: Financial Inclusion Department, Bangladesh Bank
- Expression of Interest for: Selection of Consulting Firm
- EoI Ref. No.: FID/202/01/11-2021-2142 Date: 09/09/2021
- Procurement Sub-Method: Selection under Fixed Budget (SFB)
- Budget and Source of Funds: Grant from Development Partner
- Development Partner: Alliance For Financial Inclusion (AFI)
- Project/Programme Name (if applicable): Striving for a Financially Literate Society
- EoI Closing Date & Time: 29/09/2021 at 12:00PM BST, Place: Financial Inclusion Department, Bangladesh Bank, Head Office, 16th Floor, Motijheel, Dhaka-1000.
- EoI Opening Date & Time: 29/09/2021 at 12:30PM BST, Place: Financial Inclusion Department, Bangladesh Bank, Head Office, 16th Floor, Motijheel, Dhaka-1000
- Brief Description of the Assignment: Financial Inclusion Department of Bangladesh Bank is looking for qualified Consulting Firm's Services to:
 - design, develop and maintain Bangladesh Bank's financial literacy website; and
 - production of animated videos on financial literacy.

Details of the assignment are shown in Terms of Reference (ToR).

To prepare a short list the Expression of interest (EoI) shall be evaluated on the basis of the following:

 - Background of the firm(s)
 - Company(s) brochure summarizing their facilities and areas of expertise.
 - Registration of firm(s) including following legal documents:
 - Valid TIN certificate.
 - VAT registration certificate.
 - Up to date Income Tax certificate.
 - Up to date Trade License.
 - The latest Annual report.
 - History of litigation in courts or any arbitration proceedings (if any).
 - Financial statement for the last 3 (three) years.
 - Total age of the firm(s) shall not be less than 05 (Five) years.
 - General and Overall Consultancy services experience of the firm(s) along with experience certificates.
 - Supporting documents for successful completion of designing, development and maintenance of at least five websites (each under a single contract valuing not less than BDT 2.0 lacs) for any Govt/Semi-Govt/Autonomous bodies/MNCs/NGO/ Banks/ Educational Institute etc. in the last 05 years, along with dates of inception & completion, award of contracts, attested copies of completion certificates and links of the websites.
 - Supporting documents for successful production of at least five animated videos (each under a single contract valuing not less than BDT 2.0 lacs) for any Govt/Semi-Govt/Autonomous bodies /MNCs/NGO/Banks/ Educational Institute etc. in the last 05 years, along with dates of inception and completion, award of contracts, attested copies of completion certificates and link of the animated videos (or in USB drives if link is unavailable).
 - Availability of experienced and qualified technical personnel including Project Manager, Developer, Graphics Designer, Creative Writer, Animation Creator, other key technical personnel, office staff, and resources to carry out such assignment (list of relevant professional staff & their remunerations, attested copy of their qualification certificates, experience certificates and national ID).
 - Average Annual Turnover of the firm(s) during the last 03(three) years shall not be less than BDT. 20.00 (Twenty) lac preceding the date of submission of the EoI.
- Other Details:
 - Interested bonafide consulting firm(s) are invited to submit EoI enclosing their required information to the address of the undersigned on or before closing date and time.
 - Submission of EoI should be done in enclosed format bearing the name and address of the applicant, Programme name, EoI no. & date and be addressed to the EoI issuing Authority in 02 (Two) copies; 01(one) marked as ORIGINAL and other as COPY (i.e. photocopy of the original).
 - The prospective Consultant shall submit the EoI document as ORIGINAL and COPY in separate sealed envelope in the form of **Book binding**.
 - The Consultant firm(s) shall sign and mention the page no. in every page of submitted EoI document.
 - No Applicant/Proposal after the EoI Closing date & time will be accepted. Interested Applicants may obtain further information by applying to the address below during office hours.

The Procuring Entity reserves all rights to accept or reject any or all EoIs without assigning any reason whatsoever. No claim will be entertained in this regard.

This EoI and ToR are available at <https://www.bb.org.bd>.

ডিসিপি : ৪৮/২০২১
 তারিখ : ১২/০৯/২০২১

ব্যক্তিগত ও আর্থিক সেবা পেতে হারানির শিকার হলে কিংবা কোনো অভিযোগ থাকলে ১৬২৩৬ নম্বরে বোন করুন।

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GD-1637