

## Not a wise idea

FROM PAGE 3  
this correspondent from Germany.  
Seeking anonymity, another Rohingya activist said he fears the Rohingya people from the Rakhine State may flee to Bangladesh and other Southeast Asian countries with the US and Japan making such statements.  
Contacted, a foreign ministry official requesting conditions in Rakhine State for Rohingya return, but that is absent.  
“We would like the developed countries to set a deadline for Myanmar to amend the constitution or impose comprehensive sanctions,” Prof Iltiaz said.  
“The western countries are stressing Myanmar’s restoration of democracy, and not so Rohingya repatriation. They should

**Analysts say the most important task by the international community is to create real pressure on Myanmar to improve conditions in Rakhine State for Rohingya return, but that is absent.**

anonymity said the US and Canada had made a similar proposal of resettling some Rohingyas in 2017-18, but Bangladesh did not agree.  
“If they want to resettle a big number of the Rohingya people, then we can consider,” he said.  
Analysts say the most important task by the international community is to create real pressure on Myanmar to improve focus on Myanmar, not Bangladesh,” he added.  
Nay San Lwin said the bilateral engagement between Bangladesh and Myanmar is not working as Myanmar has strong support from China.  
“I would, therefore, propose a multilateral engagement, including the major world powers to deal with Myanmar on the Rohingya issue,” he said.

## Drive resumes

FROM PAGE 3  
did not grab the opportunity and apply for registration or even those who have applied but still waiting for the registration will not be able to run the hospitals or clinics,” Kabir said.  
As to if they have any plan to ensure that private organisations ensure quality healthcare services, he said, “This is the task for the next step. We needed three months to stop the unregistered facilities. Our first task is to clean all the garbage.”  
Kabir also said that they have been planning to categorise the private healthcare organisations into three categories – A, B and C.  
“This way, people will understand the quality of the hospitals and expenditure.”

### VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

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### Endorsement of the newly elected Council (July 2022-June 2025) of the Bangladesh Academy of Sciences in its AGM held on August 27, 2022



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# Sukumar and his avian friends

SOHRAB HOSSAIN, Patuakhali

Despite being rich in birdlife, habitat destruction is looming over the country's avian species.

But a house in Barguna's Amtali municipality is fighting that threat. The place is always abuzz with the chirping of various birds, including heron, pankauri (pelican), sparrow and common myna.

Apart from birds, bats are a special attraction of this place.

There is a pond right next to the yard of the house. By the pond stands a huge rain tree that hosts bats and thousands of birds from different species. Complementing it are karai, chambal, hijol, borun and various other trees, which attract birds from nearby places.

They fly over the house day in and day out, sit in the yard, and often get inside the residence, for food, safety and maybe a little bit of affection.

Sukumar Howladar, the owner of the house, uses makeshift bird feeders and bird baths to feed his feathered friends who visit his residence.

Besides, he has planted small trees inside his home and the yard for the birds.

The fish cultivated in the pond next to the house is only exclusive to Sukumar's



guests, as he doesn't use it for any other purposes.

In an environment where birds are getting hunted down left and right or just disappearing due to unsuitable living conditions, Shukumar has built up a "House of Birds" where his feathered friends live without fear.

HOW IT ALL STARTED

"In 2010, a few bats first came and lived in the tall rain tree of the house," he said.

The number gradually increased. By the end of the year, it stood at several thousands, claimed locals.

Along with bats, many species of

birds started coming to the trees near Sukumar's pond. The number of these guests increased every year because of the host's love and resilience for birds, they added.

"Then I started cultivating fish in my pond to feed them," Sukumar added.

Sukumar said his family members wanted to cut trees in front of his house to build a multi-storied building. But his strong resistance stopped it from happening, meaning the bird sanctuary was protected.

VISITING THE HOUSE

This correspondent visited the house on a Friday morning.

The house is a two-storied one, with the curved architectural design giving it a unique look.

Surrounding it are large and small trees. Bats were seen hanging from them. This correspondent saw rows of pankauri and heron nests on the branches of the rain tree. Some of these nests housed hatchlings.

Birds and bats were flying here and there to collect food for their kids. Some of them dived into the pond to bring fish for their babies. The sheer presence of birds like heron turned the green leaves of the rain tree white.

Dhiraj Biswas, a neighbour, said, "Sukumar has built a shelter for birds in his house. Seeing his love for birds, we also started supporting him in this endeavour. No one can hunt birds in our area."

EXPERTS' TAKE

Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Agricultural University's bird and wildlife breeding expert Prof Anam Aminur Rahman said heron and pankauri live in groups together in high tree trunks.

Their main diet consists of fish, insects, and spiders.

Saying that a green and quiet environment is preferred for birds, the professor added, "What Sukumar has done for birds is undoubtedly an inspiration. If everyone has the same mentality, the environmental balance will be preserved."

## No earth filling

FROM PAGE 3

Miah and Justice Kazi Md Ejarul Haque Akondo issued the directive and rule following a petition filed by AKM Tamiz Uddin, a local land owner, challenging the legality of the government's inaction to prevent the land filling.

Petitioner's lawyer Mahin M Rahman told The Daily Star that the Marine City under the

signboard of Marine Group of Companies has been filling around 2,500 bighas of land agricultural land and water bodies near Purbachal area since February in violation of the relevant rules and laws.

But the local administration did not take any step to prevent such illegal activities, for which the HC expressed astonishment, he added.

## Shamsul Huq Tuku

FROM PAGE 3

Yesterday, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina told the parliament that late deputy speaker Fazle Rabbi was very popular as he was elected MP repeatedly gaining public trust and confidence. The premier said this at a

discussion on a condolence proposal to mourn the deaths of Fazle Rabbi, former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and five former MPs.

Later, the condolence motion was passed by a voice vote.

## 2 lakh saplings

FROM PAGE 5

a result of this occurrence. Hopefully, we will find a solution during the meeting," said Mirsarai UNO Minhazur Rahman.

Mirsarai Economic Zone is an industrial zone currently under

development in the upazila of Chattogram on the bank of the Bay of Bengal.

It is being developed on an area of 30,000 acres and is governed by Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority under the Bangladesh Economic Zone Act, 2010.

## Three killed as bus

FROM PAGE 5

He was taken from the hospital to the capital for better treatment.

After the accident, locals blocked the road for an hour in protest.

The passenger bus

of Shyamoli Paribahan was coming to Dhaka from Barishal Central Bus Terminal. Airport Police Station Officer-in-Charge (investigation) Amanullah Al Bari said they seized the bus but the driver fled the scene.

## Dilapidated for 11 years

FROM PAGE 5

the bricks to fill up the holes are broken, which is making driving even more difficult.

Abu Hana Kamal, a local businessman, said the road's situation has been like this for almost a decade.

Saha Sanjib, an easy-bike driver of Karim Nagar, said, "I seldom use the road to avoid unwanted accidents."

Contacted, Mashuazzaman Khan,

superintendent engineer of KCC, said the road is prone to getting damaged quickly due to lack of a good drainage system. He said they've started repair work on at two parts of the road from this year.

On January 20, KCC gave work order to two contractors and the work was supposed to be finished within 6 months.

One portion -- 2.75 km from Sonadanga Bus terminal to Boyra Bazar -- is

being renovated spending Tk 9.50 crore while the other -- 2.5 km from Boyra Bazar to Notun Rasta -- at Tk 10.68 crore.

Asked about the delay, the official said they are also repairing the drains beside the road, which is why it's taking a bit longer to finish the work.

"Once the work is finished, it will reduce people's sufferings," he added.



Even though it has been 11 years, KCC is yet to repair one of the busiest roads in Khulna city -- the Sonadanga-Mujgunni highway. The road has numerous ditches, which become filled with water and mud with just a little rain, making it difficult for pedestrians and commuters to use the road.

PHOTO: STAR



For as far as the eyes can see there are long lines of vehicles on Sylhet's Zindabazar road. Although the traffic situation wasn't as bad even a few years ago in the city, with increasing population and a lack of mechanisms on the authorities' part to ease traffic, the situation keeps getting worse. This photo was taken yesterday. PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

Nagorik (Shujan) Sylhet chapter, said controlling traffic should be a joint effort of SCC, SMP, and BRTA.

"But they're all failing and people are suffering," he added.

Faisal Mahmud, deputy commissioner (traffic) of SMP, said, "We've proposed some suggestions to the city corporation that will help control gridlock."

Some of the suggestions were -- creating parking spaces at the abandoned old central jail and removing existing hawkers' markets, moving wholesale markets from Kalighat and Kazirbazar to the newly-extended city areas.

"Moreover, section 37 of the road transport act dictates the local government to allot parking space for vehicles. As the city corporation failed to dedicate parking spaces, we aren't being able to take strict action against illegal parking in the city," he said.

Residents' awareness is also vital in this regard, he added.

Bidhayak Roy Choudhury, chief executive officer (additional secretary) of SCC, said, "We've been working to promptly finish all the road development projects. They (traffic police) proposed impractical suggestions, which cannot

be implemented in short term."

"The city's old area (26.5 sq km) has no vacant spaces to build parking places while parking lots in the extended areas won't change the scenario. The century-old wholesale markets also cannot be removed from the city overnight as it will cause chaos among traders," he said.

Blaming the residents' lack of civic sense, he said, "We've built a hawkers' market but they tend to come to the road and people like it that way. People also don't respect traffic laws, which cause gridlock."

### IMPORT OF SECURITY PAPER

Sealed quotations are invited from the bonafide Indentors/ Suppliers/ Manufacturers for Supply/ Import of **5,000 (five thousand)** reams of CBS-1, 95 GSM (as per Bangladesh Bank specification) sensitized cheque paper having size 29.00X21.50 sq. inches each sheet. The tender schedule and particulars of quotation will be available at Central Accounts Division, Head Office, 26 Dilkusha C/A on payment of Tk. 5,000.00 (Taka five thousand) only (non-refundable) in the form of payment order favouring "Pubali Bank Limited, Head Office, Dhaka" during the office hours till **8 September 2022**.

**Mohammad Liton Miah FCA**  
GM, Division Head & CFO

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### PARAMOUNT TEXTILE PLC

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#### Price Sensitive Information

This is for kind information to all concerned that Intraco Solar Power Ltd. One of the Associate Company of **Paramount Textile PLC** has completed its Commercial Operations Date (COD) of 30 MW (AC) Grid-Tied Solar PV Power Plant at Lalmonirhat on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2022 in the presence of the representatives of Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB).

Dated: August 28, 2022

By the behalf of the Board  
Sd/-  
(Md.Robiul Islam FCS)  
Company Secretary