

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 Imtiaz 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

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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."

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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-storyed 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.

No earth filling

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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, former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and five former MPs.

According to Sylhet City Corporation (SCC), there are more than 55,000 buildings and around half of the commercial and residential buildings have no parking lots.

Moreover, there are at least 20 mini buses, 12 human hauliers, and 30 auto-rickshaw stands that operate by occupying a part of the roads, and these stands are not authorised by the SCC.

On top of that, the roadsides are occupied by thousands of hawker-run makeshift stalls, which further narrows down the roads.

Apart from these reasons, all educational institutes are built near major roads and they have no parking lots. This results in people parking their vehicles on the road, which intensifies gridlock during school hours.

Faruque Mahmud Chowdhury, president of Shushashoner Jonno

No remedy in sight

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claims extra hours of the

workday every day."

According to Sylhet Metropolitan Police (SMP) traffic department, the key reasons behind such heavy traffic are -- no digital traffic system, narrow roads, no parking facilities, the delayed inauguration of a newly-constructed bus terminal, inaccessible truck terminal, incomplete Companiganj-Badaghaj bypass road and wholesale markets, among others.

According to Sylhet City

Corporation (SCC), there

are

more

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55,000

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Residents' awareness

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Bidhaya Roy

Choudhury, chief executive

officer

(additional secretary)