



Visitors can now witness the four white tiger cubs that were born to tiger couple Raj and Pori, their second litter of offspring since they were brought to Chattogram Zoo in 2016. The cubs were named Padma, Meghna, Shangu and Halda. With their addition, the total number of white cubs at the zoo is five, while the total number of wild cats is now 16. This photo was taken yesterday afternoon.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

Democracy is for people to prosper: Doraiswami

UNB, Savar

Outgoing Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Vikram Kumar Doraiswami said they want the Bangladeshi people to be “happy, prosperous and successful” while flourishing their democracy.

“So, your democracy is for you [Bangladeshi people] to develop,” he told reporters in Savar, while visiting National Martyrs’ Memorial yesterday.

The Indian diplomat said he is not there to say that they will support this person or that, noting that this isn’t a place to talk about politics.

“The relationship [Bangladesh-India] is strong... We’ll always stand with Bangladesh and her people,” he said on his last

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The electoral system has been destroyed

Dr Kamal Hossain slams use of EVM in election

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Gonoforum President Dr Kamal Hossain yesterday suggested creating the foundation of an independent and neutral election to overcome the country’s political crisis.

Speaking at a press conference, he also slammed the Election Commission (EC) for its decision to use electronic voting machines (EVMs) in polls, ignoring the opinions of most opposition parties.

The veteran politician said greed for money and power has stricken current politics with a terrible disease. “A healthy form of politics, free from this disease, can fulfil the people’s aspirations.”

“The nation wants to get rid of the destroyed electoral system. We all must protect the country with our united efforts.”



“We can’t allow the current state of uncertainty to continue. I call upon all conscious citizens, all civic and women’s organisations, students, workers, doctors, engineers, lawyers, teachers, journalists, and other professionals, to demand forming a structure for free and fair polls to resolve the crisis,” he said.

Dr Kamal said the electoral system has been destroyed and put into question through the EC’s move to use EVMs in the upcoming national election. “The nation wants to get rid of the destroyed electoral system. We all must protect the country with our united efforts.”

Dr Kamal said, “I am old now. The time has come for me to retire from politics. Still the leaders

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‘He mustn’t be harassed, tortured’

49 persons demand release of Pritam Das

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Forty-nine eminent personalities of the country have demanded immediate and unconditional release of and withdrawal of cases against those arrested under the Digital Security Act, including Pritam Das.

“Pritam Das cannot be harassed and tortured through remand,” they said.

In the statement issued yesterday, they said freedom of speech and expression must be ensured by immediately repealing “oppressive laws such as the Digital Security Act”.

Police arrested Pritom Das, a leader of left-leaning organisation Rashtra Sangskar Andolan, in a case filed under the DSA on September 4 for allegedly hurting religious sentiments.

Mahbub Alam Bhuiyan, an activist of Chhatra League, filed the case.

The distinguished personalities, in their statement, further said, “On August 27, 2022, a section of the local BCL attacked Rashtra Sangskar Andolan’s protests in Sreemangal in solidarity with the tea workers’ movement for wage hike. Following the attack, the

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‘Not a fair deal’

Expert slams Kushiya river agreement

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Kushiya river water-sharing agreement, signed between India and Bangladesh, was not a fair agreement, rather it just gives India the permission to use the water inside Bangladesh, said an expert yesterday.

Sarbojonkotha, a socio-economic and political magazine, yesterday organised a virtual press conference where Md Khalequzzaman, professor of geology at Lock Haven University of USA, claimed that the agreement was not signed as per the UN convention.

**The country’s unused electricity is more than 40 percent now, so Bangladesh is increasing power import from India. After the ongoing projects, India’s contribution in our power sector will jump to 16 percent from 8 percent. If the project of fuel importing through pipelines from India starts, India’s contribution in the fuel sector will be over 20 percent. Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation would save \$2.3 per barrel by importing through pipelines, but if the country would increase the refinery capacity, it could save over \$11 per barrel.**

In his presentation, titled “Unanswered questions about the Kushiya river water sharing agreement between India and Bangladesh 2022,” the professor said Kushiya is not an isolated river, rather it’s an integral part of Barak-Surma-Kushiya-Meghna transboundary river system.

“As per the UN convention, Bangladesh has rights to equitable and fair share of water of the whole river system. Barak river flows through 45,000 square-kilometre area, within which there are six large and medium irrigation projects and six hydro-electric

stations, for which they never reached any agreement with Bangladesh,” he said.

“Then why would we need the permission to withdraw 153 cusecs (cubic feet per second) of water from Kushiya during the dry season?” he asked. “The agreement also didn’t mention any compensation against the environmental damages caused by the irrigation and power projects in India.”

The expert also said that it will set a bad precedent for the upcoming days about planning and managing water resources at a downstream country as it was not a fair deal.

He also said the government’s claim to irrigate 10,000-hectare area with 153 cusecs of water was also far fetched.

“With it, Bangladesh can irrigate only a 3,750-hectare area,” he said.

The press conference, titled “India-Bangladesh Relations: River, Border and Power”, also highlighted the border situation and Bangladesh’s increasing dependency on India for power and energy.

DU Prof Moshahida Sultana said the country’s unused electricity is more than 40 percent now, so Bangladesh is increasing power import from India.

“After the ongoing projects, India’s contribution in our power sector will jump to 16 percent from 8 percent,” she said. If the project of fuel importing through pipelines from India starts, India’s contribution in the fuel sector will be over 20 percent, she added.

“Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation would save \$2.3 per barrel by importing through pipelines, but if the country would increase the refinery capacity, it could save over \$11 per barrel,” she said.

Mohammad Tanjimuddin Khan, professor of international relations at Dhaka University, said the border management issue got priority in every India tour of the prime minister since 2010, but nothing changed.

Mentioning BGB’s data, he said from 2015 to June 2022, a total of 161 Bangladeshis were shot dead by India’s BSF. “Even while the prime minister was visiting India, a schoolboy died on the Dinajpur border.”

Prof Anu Muhammad, a retired teacher of economics at Jahangirnagar University, presided over the press conference.

Barak river flows through 45,000 square-kilometre area, within which there are six large and medium irrigation projects and six hydro-electric stations, for which they (India) never reached any agreement with Bangladesh.

Md Khalequzzaman  
Professor of geology at Lock Haven University, USA

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Office of the Divisional Forest Officer  
Wildlife Management & Nature Conservation Division, Chattogram  
And  
Project Director  
Development & Expansion of the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Safari Park, Cox's Bazar (2nd Phase) (1st Revised) Project  
Memo No. 22.01.1500.122.29.002.2022.1393  
Date: 15/09/2022

**e-Tender Notice**  
e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.agprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of the following works:

Tender ID & Package No.	Name of the package	Online notice publication date and time	Online tender last selling date and time	Online tender closing date and time
731646, WMNCD/BSMSPC/2022-2023/WD-01	Construction of auto gates for entry and exit of Lion Safari	18-Sep-2022 10:00:00	03-Oct-2022 15:00	04-Oct-2022 12:00
731704, WMNCD/BSMSPC/2022-2023/WD-02	Construction of toilets with washrooms for tourists at various sites in the Safari park.	18-Sep-2022 10:00:00	03-Oct-2022 15:00	04-Oct-2022 13:00
731754, WMNCD/BSMSPC/2022-2023/WD-03	Construction of inner secure barrier (5m height) around the Tiger Safari at a distance of 15 feet from the boundary wall.	18-Sep-2022 10:00:00	03-Oct-2022 15:00	04-Oct-2022 14:00
732232, WMNCD/BSMSPC/2022-2023/WD-04	Construction of inner secure barrier (5m height) around the Lion Safari at a distance of 15 feet from the boundary wall.	18-Sep-2022 10:00:00	03-Oct-2022 15:00	04-Oct-2022 14:45
732267, WMNCD/BSMSPC/2022-2023/WD-05	Construction of resting sheds for tourists at various sites in the Safari park.	19-Sep-2022 10:00:00	10-Oct-2022 15:00	11-Oct-2022 12:00
732345, WMNCD/BSMSPC/2022-2023/WD-06	Construction and site development of Amphitheater.	19-Sep-2022 10:00:00	10-Oct-2022 15:00	11-Oct-2022 13:00
732372, WMNCD/BSMSPC/2022-2023/WD-07	Construction of Pavilion.	19-Sep-2022 10:00:00	10-Oct-2022 15:00	11-Oct-2022 14:00
732383, WMNCD/BSMSPC/2022-2023/WD-08	Construction of Digital entry and exit gates at the entrance gate of the Safari Park.	19-Sep-2022 10:00:00	10-Oct-2022 15:00	11-Oct-2022 14:45
732802, WMNCD/BSMSPC/2022-2023/WD-09	Construction of 2.5m wide loop road for tourists to visit enclosures.	20-Sep-2022 10:00:00	11-Oct-2022 15:00	12-Oct-2022 12:00
732671, WMNCD/BSMSPC/2022-2023/WD-10	Construction of two enclosures for mammals.	20-Sep-2022 10:00:00	11-Oct-2022 15:00	12-Oct-2022 13:00
732692, WMNCD/BSMSPC/2022-2023/WD-11	Construction of 2.75m height enclosure with entrance gate for breeding of the crocodiles.	20-Sep-2022 10:00:00	11-Oct-2022 15:00	12-Oct-2022 13:30
732739, WMNCD/BSMSPC/2022-2023/WD-12	Construction of boardwalks on bear and Crocodile enclosures for tourists.	20-Sep-2022 10:00:00	11-Oct-2022 15:00	12-Oct-2022 14:00
732775, WMNCD/BSMSPC/2022-2023/WD-13	Construction of reservoirs (surrounding land development, establishment of connection line from water pump to reservoir and provision of shade etc.)	20-Sep-2022 10:00:00	11-Oct-2022 15:00	12-Oct-2022 14:30
732780, WMNCD/BSMSPC/2022-2023/WD-14	Installation of Brick Laid Pavement Tiles on the both side of the bridge.	21-Sep-2022 10:00:00	12-Oct-2022 15:00	13-Oct-2022 12:00
732802, WMNCD/BSMSPC/2022-2023/WD-15	Other Maintenance.	21-Sep-2022 10:00:00	12-Oct-2022 15:00	13-Oct-2022 13:00
732812, WMNCD/BSMSPC/2022-2023/WD-16	Repair and maintenance of other buildings and structures.	21-Sep-2022 10:00:00	12-Oct-2022 15:00	13-Oct-2022 13:30
732829, WMNCD/BSMSPC/2022-2023/WD-17	Repair and maintenance of Roads and Culverts.	21-Sep-2022 10:00:00	12-Oct-2022 15:00	13-Oct-2022 14:00
732835, WMNCD/BSMSPC/2022-2023/WD-18	Repair of Water supply infrastructure.	21-Sep-2022 10:00:00	12-Oct-2022 15:00	13-Oct-2022 14:30

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 (<http://www.agprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for selling/downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk ([helodesk@agprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helodesk@agprocure.gov.bd)).

Rafiqul Islam Chowdhury  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Wildlife Management & Nature Conservation Division, Chattogram  
And  
Project Director  
Development & Expansion of the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Safari Park, Cox's Bazar (2nd Phase) (1st Revised) Project  
Phone: 0241380587  
Email: [dfowildifectg@gmail.com](mailto:dfowildifectg@gmail.com)

GD-1753



PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

As the rain has covered Dhaka for several days, commuters have prepared themselves accordingly, carrying umbrellas and raincoats with them for protection. This photo was taken in Tejgaon area yesterday.