

DSA hinders people’s right to know  
Speakers tell webinar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a webinar yesterday said the controversial Digital Security Act (DSA) is a threat to the people’s right to information.

DSA has created a culture of fear which holds back the benefits of the Right to Information Act (RTI) 2009, they said in a webinar, titled, “Right to Information (RTI) Act to Ensure Accountability”.

Article 19 organised the webinar marking the occasion of International Day for Universal Access to Information 2022.

Speakers also opined that intentional non-disclosure of public information should be criminalised. If exemplary punishment is ensured in such instances, the tendency to hold back information can be stopped.

“Articles 7 and 39 of the Bangladesh Constitution make the RTI Act truly a people’s law. The Information Commission

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Make youths aware of RTI  
Iftekharuzzaman tells workshop

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The country’s youth have to be made aware of the process for seeking information under the Right to Information Act 2009, Dr Iftekharuzzaman, executive director of Transparency International (TIB), said yesterday.

The youth can play the role of the catalyst to ensure a congenial atmosphere for the free flow of information, he said at a workshop on the RTI Act for 25 indigenous youth from Chattogram at the TIB headquarters in Dhaka.

As part of the celebration of International Right to Information day 2022, TIB has arranged different events nationally and in 45 regions countrywide.

Referring to different studies,

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CLASH ON CAMPUS  
Eden College forms probe committee

DU CORRESPONDENT

The authorities of Eden College have formed a four-member probe committee to investigate the recent clashes on the campus among the college unit’s BCL leaders and activists.


The committee has been asked to verify the incidents and submit a report within a short time. The committee was formed on Sunday, Principal Supriya Bhattacharya confirmed yesterday.

Eden Mohila College unit Chhatra League president

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# Divide 140 tanneries in 3 categories

Recommends JS body



### CATEGORIES

**One:** factories that built own waste-treatment plant

**Two:** those that never applied for environmental clearance, unlikely to comply

**Three:** the remaining factories

**The purpose of relocating tannery factories from Hazaribagh to Savar was to prevent pollution and save the environment and rivers. But Dhaleshwari of Savar has almost died. There is no solid waste treatment system in the tannery industry.**

SABER HOSSAIN CHOWDHURY

RASHIDUL HASAN

A parliamentary body yesterday recommended dividing all 140 tanneries at Savar Tannery Industry into three categories, based on compliance and lack thereof in treating tannery waste, and close down those that have never applied for environmental clearance and are unlikely to comply.

The parliamentary standing committee on environment, forest and climate change ministry made the recommendation in its meeting at Jatiya Sangsad.

Mentionable, this is the first time all government stakeholders involved with Savar Tannery Industry, including top officials of industries and commerce ministries, were present at the committee’s meeting.

State Minister for Industries Kamal Ahmed Mojumder attended the meeting on invitation.

Emerging from the meeting, Saber Hossain Chowdhury, chief of the body, told The Daily Star that following a discussion with all concerned, the

parliamentary watchdog yesterday unanimously decided that a list of tanneries that will be closed down will be finalised by next month.

“The purpose of relocating tannery factories from Hazaribagh to Savar was to prevent pollution and save the environment and rivers. But Dhaleshwari of Savar has almost died. There is no solid waste treatment system in the tannery industry,” he said.

Saber, also an Awami League lawmaker, said the industries and commerce ministries have admitted their failure to save the river.

Factories that have built their own waste-treatment plants will be in category one. The second category will include companies that have never applied for environmental clearance and are unlikely to comply. The remaining factories will be in the third category.

Saber said factories in the second category will be closed down quickly. The ministry concerned will cancel their licence.

Tanneries in the third category will

be given six months to comply. The list of these establishments will be finalised in the meeting of the parliamentary committee next month, said the committee chairperson.

Apart from this, the JS body also asked to identify those responsible for implementing the Savar Tannery Industry Project without ensuring an adequate waste-treatment system.

The tannery industry of Savar generates 40,000 cubic metres of waste per day, with a waste management capacity of 25,000 cubic metres, according to statistics of Department of Environment, placed in the meeting. There is no solid waste management system there.

In August last year, the JS body recommended closing the tannery industry due to polluting the environment and Dhaleswari. But its recommendation was not implemented.

In such a situation, the parliamentary committee in its previous meeting decided to summon secretaries of the two mentioned ministries in yesterday’s meeting.

‘Like her father, Hasina is a leader of the masses’  
President wishes PM on her birthday

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is Prime Minister and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina’s 76th birthday, which will be celebrated across the country through various programmes.

Hasina, the eldest of five children of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and Begum Fazilatunnesa, was born on this day in 1947 at Tungipara of Gopalganj.

Like previous years, Awami League and its affiliated organisations will celebrate the day by organising various events. On the occasion, discussions, milad, doa mahfils and special prayers will be held across the country.

In a press release, Awami League wrote that they will organise a discussion centrally today at Bangabandhu International Conference Hall at 3:00pm.

Yesterday, President Abdul Hamid, in a message, wished long life, sound health, peace- progress and

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Gaming platform ‘Hasina and Friends’ to be launched today

STAR REPORT

The ICT Division is set to launch the gaming platform “Hasina and Friends” today to enable users to learn about the environment, health, education and connectivity via interactive games and fun lessons.

The platform will be unveiled to mark the 76th birthday of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, according to a statement from the ICT Division.

The website is dedicated to children in three age groups (6-9 years, 9-12 years, and 12-16 years) and they are further divided into four core subjects, namely environment, health, education, and connectivity.

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FAMILY VIOLENCE  
Cricketer Al-Amin gets bail

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday granted bail to Bangladesh national team cricketer Al-Amin Hossain in a case filed by his wife over family violence.

Metropolitan Magistrate Md Shafiuddin passed the order after Al-Amin surrendered before it, seeking bail in the case.

During the hearing, the complainant was present in the court and she opposed the bail petition.

Upon hearing both the sides, the magistrate granted him bail upon a bond of Tk 5,000 with two guarantors and fixed October 6 for the next hearing.

On September 7, Ishrat Jahan, wife of Al-Amin, filed the case with a Dhaka court claiming Tk 1,00,000 as maintenance per month under Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act, 2010.

In her complaint, Ishrat alleged that her husband did not provide her maintenance including educational expenses of their two children for the last two years. Moreover, he did not come to the house to look after her and her two children.

Around 10:00pm on September 3, Al-Amin’s mother telephoned Ishrat and said her son would not continue conjugal life and provide

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Happy birthday to our nation’s pride,  
Honorable Prime Minister

Sheikh Hasina

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শেখ হাসিনা’র ৭৬তম জন্মদিনে শুভেচ্ছা ও অভিনন্দন

বাংলাদেশ প্রকৌশল বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়

PRAYER TIMING

SEPTEMBER 28

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 4:35 12:45 4:15 6:00 7:30

JAMAAT 5:10 1:15 4:35 6:05 8:00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

