

Adopt stronger anti-tobacco law

Speakers urge govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Tobacco companies have been spreading baseless, falsified information to prevent the government from adopting a stronger anti-tobacco law, speakers at a human chain claimed yesterday.

Urging the government to finish amending the existing act, they said delaying the amendment will lead to more tobacco-related deaths, and harm to public health and environment.

The human chain was formed in front of Jatiya Press Club. It was jointly organised by Progga, Anti-tobacco Media Alliance, Pratyasha, and Dhumpan Madok Durniti Birodhi Foundation, said a press release.

The organisers submitted a memorandum in this regard to the secretary of Health Services Division after the programme.

Speakers said the health ministry has recently taken an initiative to amend and strengthen the existing tobacco law.

Necessary stages of the amendment process have already been completed. “Unfortunately, the tobacco companies have launched a campaign of lies and rumours to hamper this initiative,” they observed.

Representatives from Shastho Surokha Foundation, TCRC, DORP, National Heart Foundation, NATAB, Dhumpan Madok Durniti Birodhi Foundation, Dhaka Ahsania Mission, and many other anti-tobacco organisations participated in the event.

Awareness on chronic

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diseases is putting pressure on government and private funds to meet treatment expenses worldwide, said Dr Mahmudur Rahman, member of Bapa's health programme, while presenting a keynote at the event. He mentioned that around four crore people die due to these diseases worldwide each year; 77 percent of those deaths occur in low- and middle-income countries, including Bangladesh.

Speaking as chief guest, Prof Khandaker Bazul Haque, vice president of Bapa, said the environmental crisis has significantly escalated throughout the years, but the attention to this crisis is insufficient.

Dr Abu Mohammad Zakir Hossain – convener of Bapa's health and environment programme and former director of Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research – stressed on

improving lifestyle in a scientific manner to prevent NDCs.

Prof M Abu Sayeed stressed on local research to resolve local issues centring the diseases.

Conducted by Bidhan Chandra Paul, member secretary of Bapa's environment-health programme, Alamgir Kabir and Humayun Kabir Sumon, joint-secretaries of Bapa, and Dr Mahbub Hossain, executive member, attended the event among others.

Carry out

FROM PAGE 3
“You (the media) are alleging that ruling party activists are attacking BNP members at different places of the country. I'll request the BNP leaders to refrain from saying such things that incite violence. All the clashes between us (AL) and them (BNP) have happened due to verbal instigation,” he said.

Think science

FROM PAGE 3
Youths from different universities across the country took part in the competition in three categories – essay, photography and quiz. The competition started last month.

Addressing a discussion session at yesterday's ceremony, Prof Md Shahidur Rashid Bhuiyan, vice-chancellor of Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University, said youths in Bangladesh are applying technology in the field of agriculture.

As a result, agriculture has been modernised in Bangladesh, he said, adding that such activities will help the country make progress in future.

Delivering the welcome speech, Bigganchinta Editor Abdul Qayyum said they took the initiative to inspire the country's youths to get more involved in research and invention-related activities.

Dr Mustak Ibn Ayub, a teacher of genetic

engineering and biotechnology at Dhaka University, said due to newer discoveries in the field of genetic engineering, it is now possible to ensure treatment for various diseases.

Bangladesh has to work to this end. Otherwise, it will not be able to keep up with the modern world, he said.

Farming Future Bangladesh Executive Director Arif Hossain, cartoonist Ahsan Habib and litterateur and journalist Anisul Hoque also spoke.

According to the press release, the essay competition's winners are Sumona Islam (first), Sanjida Akter (second) and Tawhidul Islam (third).

In photography, the winners are Rifat Hossain, Al Beruni Sani, and Sajib Karmakar. In quiz competition, the winners are Billal Hossain, Ferdous Afrin and Khandakar Samiha Azad.

30 held over attack

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intercepting illegal battery-rickshaws.

“They spread a rumour that traffic police had beaten up a rickshaw driver with physical disabilities. This created tension among the drivers. Following that, battery-rickshaw owners, drivers and people associated with the business sparked the incident,” he said.

On Friday, the drivers vandalised five traffic-police boxes in Mirpur and Pallabi, and injured

traffic constable Mizanur Rahman.

The incident took place around 8:30am in front of Adarsha School in Mirpur-10, when the constable stopped two battery-rickshaws, said Elias Hossain, assistant commissioner of Traffic Division (Pallabi Zone).

Twenty-five to 30 drivers launched the attack. They also vandalised a police motorbike.

Two cases were filed with Mirpur and Pallabi police stations in this connection.

Rift between AL

FROM PAGE 5
returning officer,” he said. On the other hand, Mukut said, “He [Rumen] is being strongly backed by AL lawmakers. They are also confusing the voters by saying that AL will eventually know who will vote for whom and will take actions accordingly.”

“I have been the district AL general secretary for 18 years, including from 2001 to 2006. Rumen and his brother Emon became AL leaders during its good days, yet the party chose wrongly again. I will prove again that the decision to

nominate him is wrong as I did in 2016,” he said.

Notably, in the 2016 Zilla Parishad election, Mukut won the polls as a rebel candidate by defeating Rumen's brother Emon.

Last Thursday, a meeting, presided over by Jahangir Hossain, returning officer of the polls and deputy commissioner of Sunamganj, alerted candidates not to create chaos in the polling centres.

In the polls, 1,229 voters are going to cast their votes at 12 centres.

Four hurt

FROM PAGE 5
the incident. However, the refinery authorities said none was seriously injured.

Meanwhile, a seven-member investigation committee was formed to probe into the incident, said BPC director (operations and planning) Khalid Ahmed at a press conference yesterday afternoon.

In the press conference, Khalid said the fire that broke out in the Eastern Refinery originated far outside the factories. The fire broke out during the welding work of the SPM (Single Point Mooring) pipeline coming from Maheshkhali to the Eastern Refinery during the laying of the pipeline.

“At present, we are not facing any problem in production or refining. All operations of the refinery are going on normally... All our units are operational,” he said.

Save us from

FROM PAGE 5
Contacted, Baravita UP chairman Ataur Rahman Mintu said he has repeatedly reached out to the higher-ups of the local government and Water Development Board officials for a permanent solution, but to no avail.

Abdullah Al Mamun, executive engineer of Kurigram WDB, told the journalists that it is not possible to go for a permanent solution for river erosion due to lack of funds. “Temporary measures are being taken to improve the situation,” he added.

House tutors not in the house

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student of Zahurul Huq hall, said, “I saw our house tutor only three times in my five-year hall life.”

“I can't even remember whether the house tutor visited my block... I don't even know who is the house tutor of my block,” said Mohammad Hira Sarkar, a final-year student of the hall.

The provost of the hall, Dr Muhammad Abdur Rahim, claimed that the house tutors “try” to visit the halls regularly, but sometimes fail to make time out of their busy schedules.

This correspondent found the same status quo prevailing after visiting other male dorms. Tawhid Hasan Duha, a final-year student of Bijoy Ekattor Hall, said the house tutors visit their dorms only once a year, when seats are re-allocated.

Seeking anonymity, a final-year student of the Dr Muhammad Shahidullah Hall said, “The seats are mainly distributed by the leaders of Chhatra League, not by house tutors.”

Contacted, Touhid Hossain, a house tutor of the hall, denied the allegations. He, however, said there are “rooms for improvement”.

FEMALE HALLS IN A BETTER STATE

The situation at the five

female halls is somewhat better than that of the male halls, found this correspondent.

At least 10 students of the female halls told this newspaper that the house tutors visit the block concerned once or twice a month.

They said the teachers often call them to their offices to listen to their problems and allocate seats impartially, braving political influences.

Kanika Debnath, a final-year student of Sufia kamal Hall, said the house tutor of her block is sincere and seats are allocated fairly.

THE AUTHORITIES' TAKE
Prof Abdul Basir, convener of the provost standing committee, said though there was no written guideline for house tutors earlier, it is not the case anymore.

“A house tutor is provided with residential facilities and Tk 2,100 remuneration per month on top of their salaries. So, they should perform their duties properly,” he added.

Prof Md Akhtaruzzaman, vice-chancellor of the university, said, “The guidelines for house tutors did not exist in writings before. That's not the case anymore. Now, students can know about their rights, which will help them improve their

residential life.”

“If any inconsistency is noticed, students should complain to the hall authorities (provost) immediately,” he added.

Crops washed

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Contacted, Dr Md Humayun Kabir, upazila agriculture officer in Bhuapur, told The Daily Star that the damages were limited as the farmers did not start cultivation in full swing.

The field level agriculture department officials were visiting the affected areas to assess the damages, he said. “We hope that the situation won't prevail for a long time. We'll provide incentives to the affected farmers,” he added.

Abul Mansur

FROM PAGE 3
receive Tk 5,000 and books as first prize. The second-place winner will get Tk 3,000 and books; third-place winner Tk 2,000 and books; fourth- and fifth-place holders will get books of Abul Mansur Ahmad.

All winners will get a certificate and crest.

Dhaka University Shahittiya Sangsad will organise the competition in association with Abul Mansur Ahmad Smriti Parishad.

Will Dhaka finally be free of faulty buses?

FROM PAGE 3
Bangladesh is a developing country – the beauty of the city and the image of the country largely depend on the vehicles operating in the city, said a BRTA official, citing the division's letter.

But it has been observed that some discoloured and rundown buses with broken doors, windows and lights are being operated in the city. Besides, some buses emit black smoke while some with non-functional fans and filthy seat covers ply the city streets, causing sufferings to passengers.

Sitangshu Shekhar Biswas, director (engineering) of BRTA, said upon receiving a letter from the division, they have sent a letter to the

transport associations to fix their faulty buses within November 30.

“We are very serious about the move,” he told The Daily Star last night.

Letters were sent to Bangladesh Road Transport Owners Association, Bangladesh Bus Truck Owners Association and Bangladesh Road Transport Workers Federation, another BRTA official said.

Khondaker Enayet Ullah, secretary general of Bangladesh Road Transport Owners Association, confirmed that they have received the letter.

“We will ask all our members to comply with the BRTA directives,” he told this correspondent last night.

Meanwhile, BRTA

headquarters, on October 11, has sent a letter to all vehicle inspectors not to provide fitness clearance to any faulty vehicles.

If anyone does so, action would be taken against them as per the section 25 (2) of the Road Transport Act, reads the letter.

DIFFICULT TO IMPLEMENT
A BRTA official said they have given similar directives to the owners and even conducted drives against faulty vehicles on earlier occasions.

But they could not achieve the desired results as transport owners and workers always took a stance against such drives, he said seeking anonymity.

Another BRTA official said it is difficult to maintain order on roads

UN PEACEKEEPING Sharif laid to rest in Sirajganj with state honour

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Sharif Hossain, a member of the UN peacekeeping mission, was buried with state honour at his ancestral village in Sirajganj yesterday.

Earlier, a team of Bangladesh Army carried his body to his house at Berakharia village in Belkuchi upazila of the district around noon, said Upazila Nirbahi Officer Md Anisur Rahman.

Belkuchi municipality mayor Sazzadul Haque Reza said Sharif's father Lebu Talukder received his body.

He was buried at Berkharua graveyard with the state honour by Bangladesh Army in the afternoon, said the upazila nirbahi officer.

Sharif along with two other peacekeepers from Bangladesh Army was killed in an explosion in the Central African Republic on October 3.



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Pre-bid Meeting Date: **Please see the schedule mentioned in the RFP.**

The deadline to submit the proposal is **Thursday, 10 Nov 2022; Time: 11:00 Hrs.**

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মাইক্রোবাস ভাড়ার দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি	
রাজস্ব আয়স্রের পতিশীলতা আনয়ন, নতুন আয়কর আইন প্রণয়ন ও ট্রান্সপার প্রাইসিং সেলের কার্যক্রম পতিশীল করার লক্ষ্যে মাসিক ভাড়া ০২ (দুইটি) শীতকাল নির্দিষ্ট উল্লভ্যমাসের মাইক্রোবাস (সিএনজি চালিত) ভাড়া করার লক্ষ্যে প্রকৃত পরিবহন ব্যবসায়ীদের দিকটি হতে সীমাহীনকৃত বামে দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাবে।	
১। মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগের নাম	অভ্যন্তরীণ সম্পদ বিভাগ, অর্থ মন্ত্রণালয়।
২। দপ্তর/সংস্থা	জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড।
৩। ভাড়াভুক্তার সংস্থার নাম ও ঠিকানা	জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড, রাজস্ব ভবন, সেগুনবাগিচা, ঢাকা।
৪। ভাড়া আহ্বানের কারণ	জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড এর নতুন আয়কর আইন প্রণয়ন ও ট্রান্সপার প্রাইসিং সেল এর কার্যক্রম এবং জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ডের প্রশাসনিক কার্যক্রম পতিশীল করার লক্ষ্যে ০২ (দুইটি) ০৮ আসন বিশিষ্ট উল্লভ্যমাসের এপি মাইক্রোবাস (যাচা ২০১৬ সনের পূর্বে ইলেক্ট্রিক পাট্টা হতে পারবে না) ভাড়া করার নির্দিষ্ট।
৫। অর্জের ব্যত	জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড, ঢাকা এর ৩২১১১০৭-মানবাবহন ব্যবহার (চুক্তিভিত্তিক) ব্যত।
৬। রাজস্ব কোড নং	জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড, ঢাকা, ১১১০২০১১০২০৩৬।
৭। ভাড়া করার পদ্ধতি	উদ্বৃত্ত দরপত্র।
৮। কিস্তি মূল্য পরিশোধ করতে হবে	প্রধান হিসাবরক্ষণ কর্মকর্তা, অভ্যন্তরীণ সম্পদ বিভাগ, সেগুনবাগিচা, ঢাকা কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত চেকের মাধ্যমে।
৯। দরপত্র সিদ্ধিউপলব্ধি মূল্য	৪০০/- (চারশত) টাকা অক্ষরভাষ্যে।
১০। দরপত্র সিদ্ধিউপলব্ধি বিক্রেতার স্থান	দ্বিতীয় স্তর (বোর্ড প্রশাসন-৩), কম নং-৪০১ (৪র্থ তলা), জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড, সেগুনবাগিচা, ঢাকা।
১১। দরপত্র সিদ্ধিউপলব্ধি বিক্রেতার সর্বশেষ তারিখ, সময় ও স্থান	০৬/১১/২০২২খ্রিঃ তারিখ পর্যন্ত অফিস চলাকালীন সময়, দ্বিতীয় স্তর (বোর্ড প্রশাসন-৩), কম নং-৪০১ (৪র্থ তলা), জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড, সেগুনবাগিচা, ঢাকা।
১২। দরপত্র নাথিসের শেষ তারিখ, সময় ও স্থান	০৮/১১/২০২২খ্রিঃ দুপুর ১২.০০টা পর্যন্ত। দ্বিতীয় স্তর (বোর্ড প্রশাসন-৩), কম নং-৪০১ (৪র্থ তলা), জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড, সেগুনবাগিচা, ঢাকা।
১৩। দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ, সময় ও স্থান	০৮/১১/২০২২খ্রিঃ দুপুর ১২.০০টা। দ্বিতীয় স্তর (বোর্ড প্রশাসন-৩), কম নং-৪০১ (৪র্থ তলা), জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড, সেগুনবাগিচা, ঢাকা।
১৪। যানবাহনের সর্বোচ্চ বিবরণ	২০০০ সিপি চালকসহ দুইনাম ০৮ (অটো) আসন বিশিষ্ট ডাবল এলিসহ (২০১৬ সনের পূর্ববর্তী মডেলের মাইক্রোবাস প্রশাস্যোগ্য হবেন)।
১৫। কার্যকলা	সরবাসের তারিখ থেকে ১২ (বার) মাসের জন্য (প্রয়োজনে বৃদ্ধি করা হতে পারে)।
১৬। দরদাতার যোগ্যতা	একই ধরনের কাজের অভিজ্ঞতাসম্পন্ন প্রকৃত ব্যবসায়ী এবং সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহ অত্রী দরদাতাদের (১) যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত বৈধ ট্রেড লাইসেন্স, (২) টিআইএম সনদ (রিটার্নের প্রাপ্তি স্বীকারপত্রসহ), (৩) প্রত্যাহিত গাড়ির আপ-টু-ডেট রেজিস্ট্রেশন সার্টিফিকেট, (৪) ট্যাক্স টোকেন, (৫) ক্রুট পারমিট, (৬) গাড়ির ফিটনেস সার্টিফিকেট, (৭) ক্র-পুক, (৮) বীমা সনদসহ মালিকদের বৈধ নিলামি এবং (৯) বৈধ লাইসেন্সধারী দক্ষ চালক থাকতে হবে যার ড্রাইভিং লাইসেন্সের সত্যায়িত কপি নথিপত্রের সাথে দাখিল করতে হবে এবং বাংলাদেশের বৈধ নাগরিকদের সনদপত্রের সত্যায়িত কপি দাখিল করতে হবে।
১৭। দরপত্রদাতার যোগ্যতা	সর্বোচ্চ কাজে কমপক্ষে ০২ (দুই) বছরের ব্যাপক অভিজ্ঞতাসহ দরদাতাকে অধিকৃতভাবে প্রাপ্ত একই প্রত্যাহিত মাইক্রোবাসের মালিক হতে হবে এবং দরদাতার নিজস্ব পাট্টা পার্কিং এর ব্যবস্থা থাকতে হবে।
১৮। ভাড়া দিকনির্দেশ	দরদাতা কর্তৃক জামানত বাবদ ২৫,০০০/- (পঁচিশ হাজার) টাকা দ্বিতীয় স্তর (বোর্ড প্রশাসন-৩), জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড, রাজস্ব ভবন, সেগুনবাগিচা, ঢাকা এর অনুকূলে বাংলাদেশের যে কোন তফসিলভুক্ত বাণিজ্যিক ব্যাংক হতে ব্যাংক ড্রাফট অথবা পেমেন্টের মাধ্যমে দরপত্রের সাথে জমা দিতে হবে।
১৯। দরপত্র আহ্বানকারীর নাম ও ঠিকানা	দ্বিতীয় স্তর (বোর্ড প্রশাসন-৩), জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড, রাজস্ব ভবন, সেগুনবাগিচা, ঢাকা।
২০। দরপত্র সর্বশেষ সিদ্ধিউপলব্ধি তথ্যাবলী দরপত্র সিদ্ধিউপলব্ধি বর্ণিত আছে।	
২১। কোন রকম দায় দায়িত্ব গ্রহণ অথবা কারণ প্রদর্শন ছাড়াই টেন্ডার কর্তৃপক্ষ যে কোন অবস্থা সকল দরপত্র বাতিলের অধিকার সংরক্ষণ করে।	
তারিখ: ১৮/১০	
মোঃ সাইফুর রহমান রাসেল দ্বিতীয় স্তর (বোর্ড প্রশাসন-৩)	