

They deserve same rights, opportunities Says Edward M Kennedy Jr about people with disabilities

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

People with disabilities deserve the same rights and opportunities as everyone else, said Edward M Kennedy Jr yesterday.

"Disability rights is not a marginal issue that only impacts a small number of people. There are a billion people with disabilities living around the world," said the international champion for persons with disabilities for 20 years.

Ted Kennedy Jr, who is the board chair of the American Association of People with Disabilities and co-chair of the Disability Equality Index, made the remarks at the launching event of the "50 Years of Friendship" art exhibition at the Edward M Kennedy Centre for Public Service and the Arts (EMK), Midas Centre of the capital.

Speaking at the event titled "Disability Inclusion: A right, not a privilege", he said he got involved with this issue when he was 12.



SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

Part-time student, full-time 'harasser' DU BCL activist accused of harassment, assault

DU CORRESPONDENT

An activist of BCL's Dhaka University unit has been accused of harassing and physically assaulting a woman in the university's TSC area early yesterday.

The accused is Najmul alias Jim, a senior-year student of the university's social welfare department. He is a follower of Mariam Sohan, BCL's Surja Sen Hall unit president.

BCL's DU unit President Sonjit Chandra Das confirmed to this newspaper that Najmul is a BCL activist.

The victim is a student at a private university in the capital.

Witnesses said the victim arrived at the Raju Memorial sculpture area around 2:45am with friends.

Suddenly, Najmul came and started interrogating them about why they were there at that hour. At one point, Najmul snatched her phone and slapped her multiple times.

At least four witnesses confirmed the incident.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

Leave DHAKA's flood-flow zones alone

Say speakers on new DAP provision that allows conditional construction in such areas

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The recently-approved Detailed Area Plan (DAP), which allows the construction of structures in flood-flow zones, will only encourage grabbers and aggravate waterlogging in Dhaka city, warned urban experts.

Flood-flow zones are areas that generally stay dry but store water when it rains. They are crucial in preventing waterlogging. In the new DAP, flood-flow zones have been divided into two categories: main flood-flow zones and general flood-flow zones. It proposed conditional



DAP COMPONENTS

- Density zoning
- Community services
- Environmental planning
- Demarcating places for housing facilities at reduced prices
- Prioritising pedestrians and non-motorised vehicles
- Creating large-scale regional park in every region
- Flood-flow zone management

CONCERNS

Water won't flow into main flood-flow zones from general zones

Structures in general zones will destroy their characteristics

Discriminatory distribution of floor area ratio (FAR)

BIP STUDY FINDINGS

Dhaka lost 3,440 of the 9,556 acres of flood-flow zones and other waterbodies

Structures gobbled up 1,072 acres of flood-flow zones

Despite flood-flow zones being off limits to development in the previous DAP, a vast part of them have already been filled up. This new provision will create more opportunities to occupy more areas of these zones.

ADIL MOHAMMAD KHAN
FORMER GENERAL SECRETARY
OF BANGLADESH INSTITUTE OF
PLANNERS

development in the general zones.

Addressing a discussion on DAP at The Daily Star Centre on Sunday, they said the proposal of conditional development will create opportunities for grabbers to occupy more of these zones.

"Despite flood-flow zones being off limits to development in the previous DAP, a vast part of them have already been filled up. This new provision will create more opportunities to occupy more areas of these zones," said Adil Mohammad Khan, former general

secretary of Bangladesh Institute of Planners (BIP).

Adilsaid due to the new provision, during heavy rain, water will not be able to run into main flood-flow zones from general zones, which will lead to waterlogging. Construction of structures in the general zones will not only destroy their characteristics but will also make them ineffective for proper water flow.

According to a BIP study in 2019, Dhaka city, which is under Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha (Rajuk), had lost 3,440 of the 9,556 acres of flood-flow zones, water-retention areas, and waterbodies in nine years since 2010.

It also found that during that period, individuals, businesses, real-estate developers, organisations, and even government agencies gobbled up 1,072 acres of flood-flow zones, which cover 1,879 acres of the Dhaka metropolitan area.

Speaking at the event, Syeda Rizwana Hasan, chief executive of Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association (Bela), came down hard on Rajuk for failing to protect waterbodies. She was critical about letting such construction going on in the zones.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

Hold traffickers accountable Says state dept official Bryan Marcus

PORIMOL PALMA



Washington has pressed Dhaka for holding human traffickers accountable for their crimes and supporting trafficking survivors.

Bryan Marcus, deputy director of the US State Department Office to Monitor and Combat Human Trafficking, discussed the issue during his meetings with the parliamentarians, officials of the foreign and home ministries, and civil society groups, during his visit to Dhaka on October 16-17.

Bangladesh has been ranked Tier-2 for the last two consecutive years, which is an improvement from the Tier-2 Watch List in the US Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report.

In an interview over emails with this newspaper, Bryan Marcus said the US recognises Bangladesh's increasing efforts to investigate, prosecute, and

SEE PAGE 4 COL 2

'Political reforms can solve crises' Says Shujan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh is not only facing an economic crisis, rather it is also suffering due to the absence of an effective democracy and good governance, said civil society organisation Sushashoner Jonno Nagorik (Shujan) yesterday.

Through a virtual press conference, leaders of the organisation said to solve this crisis, political understanding and some effective political reforms are needed.

"Ensuring free, fair and acceptable elections is the most vital reform. But an elected government alone is not enough to establish democratic rule," said Shujan Secretary Badiul Alam Majumdar.

If voting rights are not ensured and corruption is not curbed, the economic crisis will remain. "Because economic and political crises are connected with each other," Badiul said.

Economist Ahsan H Mansur said the country has to restore economic stability through all-out

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4



Hundreds of workers of Olio Apparel Limited blocked roads in Motijheel, Kamalapur and Aramabagh areas yesterday, demanding arrears. Workers claimed the factory was closed without any prior notice. This photo was taken in Motijheel.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

A new addition to promote TOURISM

BRTC to introduce open-top buses for tourists

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC) is going to introduce a special service for tourists using two of its open-top buses, to promote tourism in and around Dhaka.

Once the service is launched, travellers will be able to see Padma Bridge, along with several historical sites in Dhaka, all while sitting on the open-top buses, said officials.

"We are currently preparing packages for the customers... It will take 10 days or so. We hope to launch the service very soon," BRTC Chairman Tazul Islam told The Daily Star yesterday.

Besides, the state-run transport agency also provides buses on rent for transporting government staffers, and students from different educational institutions. It also has truck services for carrying goods.

Sources said the decision to introduce special tourist buses



came from the Road Transport and Highways Division in its monthly coordination meeting on October 17.

BRTC in September prepared an open-top bus, by removing the roof of one of its double-decker buses overnight, to welcome the Bangladesh team that won SAFF Women's Championship.

Later, BRTC modified another double-decker bus and took 40 underprivileged children to Padma Bridge on the vehicle to mark Sheikh Russel Day on October 18.

"We are a commercial organisation. So, we have devised a plan to utilise the two open-top buses properly," said a BRTC official, requesting anonymity.

The BRTC chairman said using the service, tourists will be able to witness different historically significant places in Dhaka, including Ahsan Manzil, Bangabandhu Museum at Dhanmondi, Jatiya Sangsad premises, and Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Novo Theatre.

Under a package, food will also be provided for the duration of the trip.

POSSIBLE CHALLENGES
Amid all the promises that this service brings, it also has some challenges, according to officials and some travellers.

One month after the long-cherished Padma Bridge opened in June, Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation (BPC) started a special bus service for tourists wishing to see the bridge.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Director
Chattogram Medical College Hospital.
www.cmch.gov.bd

Memo No: CMCH/Tender/2022-2023/Non-MSR (Non-Diet)/14781 Date: 31-10-2022.

Invitation For Tender

Sealed Tenders are hereby invited from experienced Importers/Contractors/Suppliers/Distributors to supply Non-MSR (Non-Diet) Goods for CMCH in the fiscal year 2022-22023. As per PPA-2006 & PPR-2008; Terms and conditions are as follow(s):

KEY INFORMATION			
1 Ministry / Division	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.		
2 Agency	Chattogram Medical College Hospital, Chattogram.		
3 PE Name, Designation & Contact details	Brigadier General Md. Shamim Ahsan, Director, Chattogram Medical College Hospital. Telephone: +8802333360179, E-mail address: cmch@hospi.dghs.gov.bd		
4 Procuring Entity Code & District	GOB, Chattogram.		
5 Invitation for	Tender for procurement of Non-MSR (Non-Diet) Goods for CMCH in the fiscal year 2022-2023.		
6 Tender Ref. No & date	Memo No: CMCH/Tender/2022-2023/Non-MSR (Non-Diet)/14781 Date: 31-10-2022.		
7 Procurement Method	Open Tender Method (OTM).		
8 Budget and Source of Funds	GOB in Bangladeshi Taka.		
9 Tender Publication Date	01-11-2022.		
10 Tender Schedule Selling Starting Date and Time	01-11-2022 During office hours.		
11 Pre-Tender Meeting	08-11-2022, 11:00 A. M.		
12 Tender Last Selling Date and Time	14-11-2022, 12:00 P. M.		
13 Tender Dropping & Closing Date and Time	Dropping date: 15-11-2022, Dropping time: from 09:00 AM to 12:00 PM, Closing time: 12:01 P. M.		
14 Tender Opening Date and Time	15-11-2022 at 01:00 P.M.		
Name and address of the Office's			
15 (a) Selling Tender Documents	1 Cashier, Office of the Director, Chattogram Medical College Hospital.		
	2 Cashier, Office of the Civil Surgeon, Chattogram District.		
(b) Receiving Tender Documents	1 Office of the Director, Chattogram Medical College Hospital.		
	2 Officer In-charge, Panchlaish Model Thana, Chattogram Metropolitan Police.		
Tender Documents Opening Place Office of the Director, Chattogram Medical College Hospital, KB Fazlul Kader Road, Chattogram.			
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER			
16 Bidders Eligibility	Details in Tender Booklet.		
Description of Group, Price of Tender Document, Tender Security etc.			
Sl. No.	Description of Group	Price of Tender Document in BDT (Only in Cash, Non Refundable)	Tender Security in BDT (Bank Draft / Pay Order to be submitted with the tender booklet in favor of The Director, CMCH). Bank guarantee is not acceptable.
17 1	Dirty Linen Goods Washing	500.00 (Five Hundred Only)	50,000.00 (Fifty Thousand Only)
2	Hospital Waste Management	500.00 (Five Hundred Only)	15,000.00 (Fifteen Thousand Only)
3	Internet Related & Website Services	500.00 (Five Hundred Only)	15,000.00 (Fifteen Thousand Only)
4	Computer and Computer accessories Repair	500.00 (Five Hundred Only)	15,000.00 (Fifteen Thousand Only)
5	Event & Festival Management	500.00 (Five Hundred Only)	15,000.00 (Fifteen Thousand Only)
6	Inventory Management & Maintenance	500.00 (Five Hundred Only)	20,000.00 (Twenty Thousand Only)
18	Description of Related Services	Detailed description in Tender Booklet.	

Note:
(a) *Corrigendum if necessary in future will be a part of this notice. The competent authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tender without assigning any reason whatsoever.*
(b) *If the date of selling, receiving & opening of tender is disturbed under any unavoidable circumstances, the next working day will be applicable for the same respectively.*

Signed /-
(Brigadier General Md. Shamim Ahsan)
Director
Chattogram Medical College Hospital.
Telephone: +8802333360179
E-mail: cmch@hospi.dghs.gov.bd

GD- 2008