

**TAX ON DONATION
SC to hear
Dr Yunus' petitions
on Jul 17**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The Supreme Court yesterday fixed July 17 for hearing three petitions filed by Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus challenging a High Court verdict that justified the decision of imposing tax on the money gifted by him to his three charitable trusts.
Chamber judge of the SC's Appellate Division Justice M Enayetur Rahim sent the leave to appeal petitions to its full bench for their hearing.
On May 31, the HC delivered the verdict saying that the decision of

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**Amid chaos,
Gono Odhikar
Parishad holds
council today**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Gono Odhikar Parishad is set to hold its first-ever council today, although it faces a boycott from a faction loyal to its founding convener Reza Kibria.
Despite the division, Nurul Haque Nur, the member secretary of the party, remains steadfast in his commitment to conducting the council as scheduled, expressing confidence that approximately 90 percent of the councilors will participate.
Nur believes that this council would serve as a resurgence for the platform. However, several key

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KUAKATA BEACH

**75,000 TREES LOST
to erosion every year**

MD ABBAS, back from Kuakata

There was a time when coconut, palm, tamarisk, and mangrove trees swayed with the winds on Kuakata Beach. Their tall trunks guarded the shore-dwellers against the wrath of natural calamities.
However, the current state of the National Park, a government-declared forest reserve along this coastal belt since 2005, only brings dismay to tourists and locals.
About 2,000 hectares of forest land on the 18-km beach have been washed away in the last 13 years. The coconut orchards have completely disappeared, while only one-third of the tamarisk and palm trees continue to breathe in the reserves.

Most of these trees have fallen prey to erosion, a common phenomenon by the Bay, alarmingly increasing risks for the locals of this disaster-prone area.
According to Patuakhali forest department sources, to make Kuakata more attractive to tourists, the department created a tamarisk garden adjacent to the beach in the



financial year 2007-08. The garden stretches across 10,000 hectares of land along the shoreline.
Since 2010, 2,166 acres of fresh land have been turned into reserves. In 2019, another 60 hectares were converted

into tamarisk gardens, while acacia were planted on another 25 hectares along the shore in Gangamati area.

The following year, 85 more hectares were converted into reserves, planting different species of plants suitable for the region.
Meanwhile, erosion and tidal surges annually obliterate at least 50 hectares of forest reserves. In the last five years, such disasters have claimed approximately 250 hectares of the reserves as the aforementioned calamities frequently hit the shore during the stipulated period, informed Mahipur range officials.

Over 100 acres of forestland are washed away every year, uprooting nearly 75,000 trees of different species, especially Kewra, according to forest department sources.

The panoramic beach, once running 18 kilometres, has shrunk significantly due to continuous erosion, making it difficult for tourists to enjoy walks during high tides. The beach and the forest will disappear if immediate steps are not taken to address this issue, said Asaduzzaman Miraj, a local.

"Deploying geo bags and blocks can help prevent erosion. The risks can be further reduced by planting more trees, as they would guard the shores naturally," he added.

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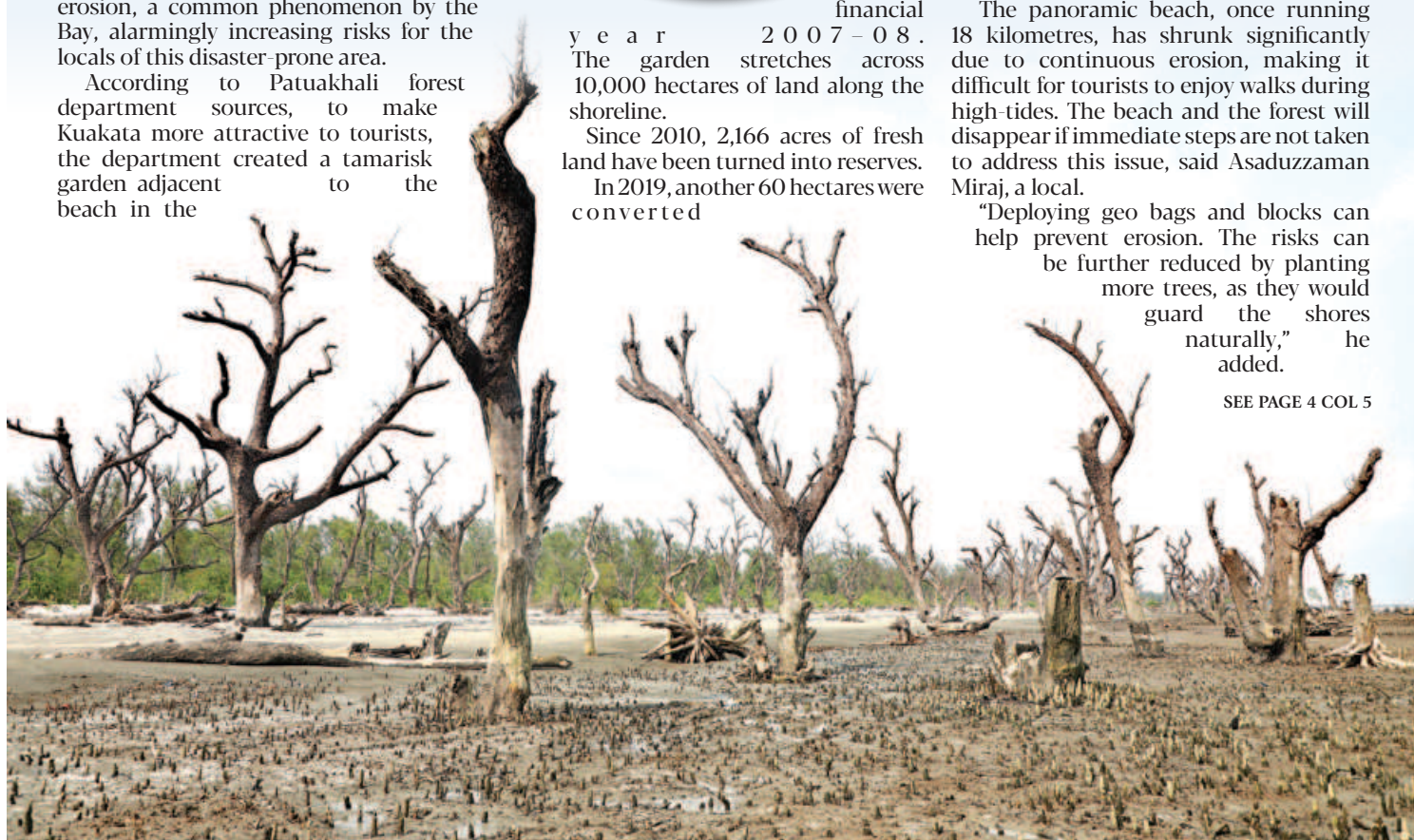


PHOTO: PALASH KHAN



PHOTO: COLLECTED

**Bhutan king
makes a pit
stop in Dhaka**

UNB, Dhaka
Bhutan King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck made a brief stopover in Dhaka yesterday.

Information Minister Hasan Mahmud received the king at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka.

The Bhutanese king stayed for nearly one hour and they exchanged pleasantries.

He started from Bhutanese capital and came to Dhaka before his next destination -- Bangkok.

**LANDSLIDE RISK AT HILLS
Over 300 structures
dismantled in Ctg**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Chattogram District Administration yesterday knocked down more than 300 risky structures at the hills in the city's Akbor Shah area, in compliance with a court order.

The drive was conducted in cooperation with the Department of Environment and law enforcers.

Touhidul Islam, senior assistant commissioner of the district administration, told The Daily Star that they dismantled the illegal structures near Beltolighona area.

Earlier on Thursday, Chattogram District Administration demolished over 500 makeshift structures in the area.

On August 1, 2022, Human Rights and Peace for Bangladesh filed a writ petition with the High Court regarding the illegal structures.

In the same month, the HC ordered the authorities concerned to remove those establishments from the hills.



PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

About 2,000 hectares of forest land on the 18-km beach have been washed away in the last 13 years. The coconut orchards have completely disappeared, while only one-third of the tamarisk and palm trees continue to breathe in the reserves.

**GOVT FUND
Probe graft
allegation
against BFF
officials: SC**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday upheld a High Court directive that asked the agencies concerned to conduct enquiry into corruption allegations regarding government funds against some officials of Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF).

The Appellate Division of the SC also affirmed its chamber judge's order that on June 25 issued status quo on a part of the HC directive which directed them to probe the allegations regarding FIFA fund.

The apex court asked the HC to dispose of the rule issued over this matter in three weeks, Anti-Corruption Commission lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan told The Daily Star.

A full bench of the Appellate Division headed by Chief Justice Hasan Foez Siddique passed the order after hearing a petition filed

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PRAYER TIMING
JULY 10
Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4-10 12-45 5-00 6-55 8-17
JAMAAT 4-45 1-15 5-15 7-00 8-45
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

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E-mail: plt@desco.gov.bd, Web: www.desco.gov.bd

Invitation for International Tender

1	Ministry/Division	Power Division, Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources		
2	Agency	Dhaka Electric Supply Company Limited (DESCO)		
2	Procuring Entity Name	Procurement, Inspection & Testing Division, DESCO		
3	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka		
4	Invitation for	International competitive tender for Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Station Based Fully Automatic Meter Testing Bench		
5	Tender No.	ICT- 30/2023		
6	Invitation Ref No.	27.24.0000.021.07.030.23.784		
7	Date	09/07/2023		

KEY INFORMATION

8	Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method (One Stage Two Envelope)		
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FUNDING INFORMATION

9	Budget and Source of Funds	DESCO's own fund		
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PARTICULAR INFORMATION

10	Tender Name	Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Station Based Fully Automatic Meter Testing Bench		
11	Tender Selling Date, Closing & Opening Date and Time	Last Selling Date	Closing Date & Time	Opening Date & Time
		August 28, 2023 4.00 PM	August 29, 2023 12.00 Noon	August 29, 2023 12.30 PM
12	Name & Address of the office for selling Tender Document, receiving & opening tender	Selling	Receiving	Opening
		Office of Deputy General Manager (Accounts), DESCO House # 22/B (6 th floor), Faruque Sarani, Nikunja # 2, Dhaka-1229.	Office of the Superintending Engineer (P,I&T), DESCO Address: Plot # 22/B, Faruque Sarani, Nikunja # 2, Dhaka-1229	Office of the Superintending Engineer (P,I&T), DESCO House # 22/B (1 st floor), Faruque Sarani, Nikunja # 2, Dhaka-1229.

INFORMATION FOR TENDERER

13	Eligibility of Tenderer	No. of lots under this tender is:01 (One). All qualification criteria have been mentioned in Section 2: Tender Data Sheet of the Tender Document.
14	Description of Goods & related Service	Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Station Based Fully Automatic Meter Testing Bench. Details are described in Section 6: Schedule of Requirements and Section 7: Technical Specifications
15	Price of Tender Document	US\$ 115.00 (USD One Hundred Fifteen) (incl. VAT) or BDT 12,500/- (Taka Twelve Thousand Five Hundred) only (incl. VAT) payable in the form of Pay Order/Bank draft from any scheduled bank in Bangladesh in favor of 'Dhaka Electric Supply Company Limited (DESCO)'.
16	Tender Security Amount	The amount of the Tender Security shall be Tk. 35,00,000.00 (Taka Thirty Five Lakh) Only or US\$ 32,500 (Thirty Two Thousand Five Hundred US Dollar) in the form of an irrevocable Bank Guarantee issued by any scheduled bank of Bangladesh or by any internationally reputable bank in favour of 'Dhaka Electric Supply Company Limited'. But in case of internationally reputable bank, the Bank Guarantee should be endorsed by its any correspondent bank located in Bangladesh. The tender security in the form like SWIFT copy or any other way is not acceptable.

PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS

17	Name of Official inviting the Tender	Engr. Mohammad Kamruzzaman
18	Designation of Official inviting the Tender	Superintending Engineer (Procurement, Inspection & Testing)
19	Contact details of Official inviting the Tender	Interested firms may obtain further information from the office of the under signed during normal office hours (09:00 AM to 04:00 PM). Office of the SE (Procurement, Inspection & Testing), DESCO. Address: 22/B (1 st floor), FaruqueSarani, Nikunja # 02, Khilkhet, Dhaka-1229. E-mail: plt@desco.gov.bd
20	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any/all tender(s) without assigning any reason whatsoever.	

N.B. The Tender Document is published on DESCO's website. Copy of tender document purchase receipt is mandatory during Tender submission.

Engr. Mohammad Kamruzzaman
Superintending Engineer (P, I & T), DESCO

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