

‘COP28 failed our expectations’

Says Climate Justice Alliance, emphasises need for urgent action

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Climate Justice Alliance yesterday criticised the outcomes of the COP28 climate conference, asserting that the global community’s expectations were not adequately addressed.

Led by the Centre for Participatory Research and Development (CPRD), the coalition of 30 organisations expressed disappointment at a press conference at Jatiya Press Club in the capital.

Shamsuddin Ahmed, executive director of CPRD, said, “The COP28 conference failed to live up to our expectations. Countries were not required to phase out fossil fuels by a specific date, and there was no clear roadmap for increasing adaptation finance. This is a setback for climate justice.”

The alliance also said the conference called for a three-fold increase in renewable energy capacity by 2030, but the commitment did not include adequate financial support for developing and least-developed countries.

Juliate Keya Malakar, executive director of Christian Commission for Development in Bangladesh, said, “Climate change

leaves a severe impact on the lives of the most vulnerable people, yet we spent the last eight years deciding relevant definitions, jargons, and terminologies. This conference significantly lacks remarkable changes and actions required for the climate-vulnerable community.”

Speakers also emphasised the need to phase down unabated coal-based electricity generation and to transition away from fossil fuels. They also called for an end to ineffective subsidies on fossil fuels and encouraged the use of transitional energy, such as gas, to ensure energy security while prolonging increase in greenhouse gas emissions.

CPRD Research Officer Sheikh Nur Ataya Rabby and Elmee Tabassum delivered a presentation on the achievements and expectations of COP28, urging countries to take urgent action.

Khodeja Sultana Lopa, country director of diakonia; Prof Ahmed Kamruzzaman Majumder, chairman of the Department of Environmental Science at Stamford University Bangladesh; Molla Amzad Hossain, editor of Energy and Power, and Syed Aminul Haque, director of the Coast Foundation, were also present.



Holding onto a heap of dried branches, Sofia Begum walks back home in Rangasree union of Barishal’s Bakerganj upazila yesterday. The 65-year-old collects these branches to use them as firewood. PHOTO: TITU DAS

Yet another sabotage attempt on railway

Miscreants remove fishplates, sleepers from track

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinaipur

An intercity train averted an accident after miscreants removed fishplates and sleepers from a part of rail tracks in Birampur upazila of Dinaipur on Tuesday night.

Meanwhile, the train movement was disrupted between the Dhaka-Panchagarh route due to a crack in the rail line in Birampur for a couple of hours.

The service was restored after 10:30am yesterday.

AKM Nurul Islam, officer-in-charge of Government Railway Police (GRP) in Parbatipur upazila, said miscreants removed the fishplates and several sleepers of rail tracks on the outer of Birampur Railway Station on Tuesday night.

Afterwards, they left those on the tracks covering them with hyacinths.

As Abdur Razzak, the locomotive master of the Khulna-bound Simanta Express Intercity Train, noticed the incident, he stopped the train and informed the BR officials and police around 11:00pm on Tuesday.

Shah Iftekhar Ahmed, superintendent of police in Dinaipur; and Debasish Chowdhury, ADC (revenue), visited the spot and took steps to restore the rail service.

Talking to the journalists, the SP said it was a sabotage act. Criminals also tried to set fire to the rail line, said the SP.

The service was restored after three hours, he added.

In another incident, a rail track was found cracked 3km off the Birampur Railway Station, affecting the train service since yesterday morning. As locals noticed it, they hoisted red flags there to warn the moving trains and informed BR officials and police.

A case was filed with the police station, said the OC.



BANGLADESHI KILLED IN KSA

Two families get Tk 30cr compensation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two Bangladeshi families received around Tk 30 crore in compensation, years after their loved ones were murdered in Saudi Arabia. The money was paid by the families of the accused, as per the order of Damman and Jeddah courts.

In 2006, Sagar Patwary, who was from Cumilla, was killed by an unidentified gunman in Damman city. As the attacker could not be identified for a long time, the case did not progress. With support of the Bangladesh embassy there, the case went to a Damman court.

The family members of Sagar have received 51 lakh Saudi Riyal as compensation.

In 2019, Abiron Begum was killed at her employer’s residence in Riyadh. In 2021, a Riyadh court directed the employers to provide compensation of 48 lakh Saudi Riyal to Abiron’s family.

The families of both victims received the compensation through the Bangladesh embassy.

Asaduzzaman Khan, second secretary (press), Bangladesh embassy of Riyadh confirmed the matter to The Daily Star yesterday.

Two cops among 3 held for kidnapping, extortion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three including two sub-inspectors of Shah Ali Police Station were arrested on Tuesday for abducting a trader and robbing him of over Tk 9 lakh.

Sher-e-Bangla Nagar police arrested the three after the victim, Shahadat Sarder, 32, filed a case on December 15.

The two SIs are Moshir Rahman Taposh, 32, and Tuhin Kazi, 29. The other arrestee is Sufian Mollah, 40.

Following their arrest, a Dhaka court placed them each on a three-day remand, said OC Ahad Ali of Sher-e-Bangla Nagar Police Station.

In the case statement, Shahadat said a blue private car stopped his rickshaw near an under-construction building of Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University around 3:15pm on December 9.

“Three of them got out of the private car and introduced themselves as DB men. They handcuffed and blindfolded me. They also took away my mobile phone, wallet, and Tk 1.70 lakh that I had in my pocket,” Shahadat said in the statement.

Then, after taking Shahadat to a house, they beat him to make him give up his ATM card pin.

They installed the bank’s app on Shahadat’s phone and transferred Tk 7.33 lakh to another account in three phases. They robbed a total of Tk 9.19 lakh from Shahadat and made him sign on a white paper, Shahadat mentioned in the case.

After taking the money, the abductors put handcuffs on Shahadat’s hands and blindfolded him again. Around 9:30pm, they dropped him near Mirpur-1, added the statement.

Jashim Uddin Mollah, deputy commissioner (Mirpur division) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, told The Daily Star that since the SIs have been arrested, they are automatically suspended.

Actions have been taken against them according to the rules, he added.

Contacted, Mofizur Rahman Palash, assistant commissioner (Darussalam zone) of DMP, said departmental actions will be taken against the two SIs.

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Arsonists must be punished

Says chief justice

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Justice Obaidul Hassan yesterday hoped that the culprits, who set fire to Mohanganj Express train in Dhaka on Tuesday, must be identified through a proper probe and be put on trial for punishment.

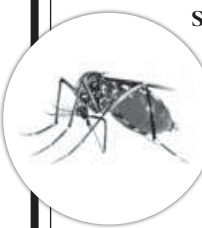
The chief justice said this after inaugurating the construction works for the 14-storey Record Building of the Supreme Court on its premises.

Judges of the SC’s Appellate Division – Justice Borhanuddin and Justice M Enayetur Rahim, judges of the High Court Division – Justice JBM Hassan, Justice Md Akram Hossain Chowdhury, Justice Md Iqbal Kabir Lytton, Justice Md Khairul Alam and Justice Biswajit Debnath and SC Registrar General Md Golam Rabbani, among others, attended the programme.



Four more lives lost to dengue

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



At least four dengue patients died, three from outside Dhaka, in the last 24 hours till yesterday morning.

With this, the total number of deaths rose to 1,692, of which 975 are from Dhaka, according to the DGHS.

With 207 new dengue cases, the total number of cases this year rose to 3,19,878.

A total of 1,297 dengue patients are still undergoing treatment at different hospitals across the country. Among the total cases, 3,16,889 patients have already been released.

According to the DGHS, a total of 62,382 patients were hospitalised last year, while total number of deaths was 281.

Woman held with over 8kg gold at Dhaka airport

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Customs Intelligence and Investigation Directorate officials detained a woman along with 8.2kg gold at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka on Tuesday night.

Detainee Rekha Parveen reached Dhaka from Dubai on a flight of Emirates Airlines around 11:00pm, said a press release signed by Farhana Begum, assistant director of CIID.



Based on information, the officials carried out a drive inside the aircraft.

After interrogation, they recovered 69 gold bars concealed in her handbag, wrapped with scotch tape, the CIID official said.

Some ornaments were also recovered after searching her body, she said.

The market value of the seized gold, is around Tk 6.57 crore. A case will be filed against her soon, the official said.

US reiterates its support for free, fair polls

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The US State Department has reiterated that it supports a free and fair election in Bangladesh.

“We support a free and fair election in Bangladesh, and I don’t have any further comment from that,” said State Department Spokesperson Matthew Miller at a regular press briefing in Washington DC on Tuesday.

He was responding to a question about a Russian foreign ministry Spokesperson Maria Zakharova saying that attempts can be made to destabilise Bangladesh, like in the Arab Spring, if the results of the January 7 polls are not satisfactory for the US.

On December 15, Zakharova said there were serious reasons to fear that in the coming weeks an even wider arsenal of pressure, including sanctions, may be used against the government of Bangladesh, which is undesirable to the West.

On May 24, the US said it would impose visa restrictions on individuals and their immediate family members “if they are responsible for, or complicit in, undermining the democratic election process in Bangladesh”.

Zakharova added on December 15, “If the results of the people’s will are not satisfactory to the United States, attempts to further destabilise the situation in Bangladesh along the lines of the ‘Arab Spring’ are likely.”



		RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY	
Office of the Chairman, Department of Botany		Date: 19.12.2023	
Invitation for Tender (OTM)			
Tender Notice			
1. Ministry/Division	Ministry of Education		
2. Agency	University of Rajshahi		
3. Procuring entity name	The Chairman, Department of Botany, University of Rajshahi.		
4. Procuring entity code	Not used at present		
5. Procuring entity district	Rajshahi		
6. Invitation for	Laboratory Equipments, Glass ware & Other supply		
7. Invitation Ref No.	191/Botany/2023-2024		
Date	19.12.2023		
KEY INFORMATION			
8. Procurement method	(OTM) Open Tendering Method		
FUNDING INFORMATION			
9. Budget and source of fund	GOB & Recurring		
PARTICULAR INFORMATION			
10. Tender Package No.	As shown in SL-18		
11. Tender last selling date and time	24.01.2024	2:00pm	
12. Tender closing date and time	25.01.2024	12:00 Noon	
13. Tender opening date and time	25.01.2024	12.30 Noon	
14. Name and address of the office(s)	Address		
Selling tender document	Agrani Bank Ltd. Rajshahi University Branch, Rajshahi		
Receiving tender document	Office of the Treasurer, Rajshahi University, Rajshahi-6205		
Opening tender document	(1) Office of the Treasurer, Rajshahi University, Rajshahi-6205		
(2) Tenderers and their authorized representatives are allowed to attend.			
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER			
15. Eligibility for tenderer	Tenderer must meet the following qualifying & other eligibility criteria stated in the tender document: a. Up-to-date trade licenses, up-to-date income tax clearance certificate, vat registration certificate, bank solvency certificate. b. All terms & conditions as stated in the tender document and in the PPM-2012 & PPR-2008 (with all amendments) will remain valid.		
16. Brief description of work	As shown in SL-18(i)		
17. Special instruction	Tender security shall be (Bangladesh Bank permitted to any bank) submitted in the form of BD/PO in favour of The Chairman, Department of Botany, RU.		
18. Name of the work	Supplier	Tender security (in Tk)	Price of tender document (in Tk) (non-refundable)
18(i) Lot Basis Purchase of Scientific Equipments, Glass Ware & others	Experienced and reputed in this business	Tk 14000/-	Tk 600/-
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS			
19. Name of official inviting tender	Professor Dr. Mohammad Shahidul Alam		
20. Designation of official inviting tender	The Chairman, Department of Botany, RU.		
21. Address of official inviting tender	Rajshahi University, Rajshahi-6205		
22. Contact details of official inviting tender	Phone No. +8802588864118, Mobile: +8801715138818		
23. The University authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof.	Note: If the last date of selling and receiving the tender document fall in any holiday or the office remains closed in any unavoidable circumstances, the same shall be done on the next working days respectively.		
GD-1991			



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PGCB Bhaban, Avenue-3, Jahurul Islam City, Aftabnagar, Badda, Dhaka-1212 web: www.pgcb.gov.bd

Memo No.: 27.21.0000.201.11.002.23.6295 Date: 19.12.2023

JOB OPPORTUNITY (Corrigendum)

Memo No.: 27.21.0000.201.11.001.23.6079 Date: 10.12.2023 has been corrected as follows:

- Age Limit:**
Maximum age limit will be 30 years on 14/12/2023 (opening date) instead of 04/01/2024 (in case of Physically Handicapped/freedom fighter/ freedom fighter's son/daughter the age limit will be 32 years) and the age limit will be relaxed up to 40 years for the PGCB's departmental candidates.

All other terms and conditions will remain unchanged.

General Manager (P&A)