

Petition seeks HC order to remove iron cages from courtrooms

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ten Supreme Court lawyers yesterday filed a petition with the High Court seeking its order on the authorities concerned of the government to remove iron cages from the courtrooms throughout the country.

Iron cages inside courtrooms are where the accused stand during case proceedings.

Advocate Mohammad Shishir Manir, on behalf of the 10 lawyers, submitted the petition, which also asked for re-establishment of wooden cages in the courtrooms.

The petitioners said use of iron cages in courtrooms is inhumane and contradictory to the law and constitution.

Mashrafe, four others appointed as JS whip

Noor-E-Alam Chy chief whip

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

President Mohammed Shahabuddin yesterday appointed Noor-E-Alam Chowdhury, member of parliament from Madaripur-1 as the chief whip, and Mashrafe Bin Mortaza, member of parliament from Narail-2 a whip of the Jatiya Sangsad.

The president also appointed four other lawmakers as whips.

They are Iqbalur Rahim (Dinajpur-3), Abu Saeed Al Mahmud Swapan, (Joypurhat-2), Md Nazrul Islam Babu, (Narayanganj-2) and Saimum Sarwar Kamal (Cox's Bazar-2).

The president gave the appointments in line with the Bangladesh (Whip) Order, 1972.

Parliament Secretariat's Human Resources Division-1 published a gazette in this regard.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at a meeting with KSA Ambassador to Bangladesh Essa Yousef Essa Alduhailan at Gono Bhaban yesterday.

PHOTO: PID

When breathing becomes a peril

Unchecked construction work, vehicle emissions choke Dhaka's Mohammadpur residents

MD ABBAS

Dust swirls like a phantom fog through Dhaka's Mohammadpur Beribadh and Dhaka Udyan. Unplanned construction works are a common sight on the roads, spewing debris and despair in equal measure.

The situation turns worse when winter tightens its grip, as the pollution turns into a suffocating haze.

For residents, each breath feels like a gamble, a choice between what they say is "toxic air" and the ever-present threat of respiratory illness.

A major reason behind toxicity in Dhaka's air is the emissions released from unfit vehicles, say experts.

When this correspondent visited the areas recently, he observed that road expansion work was ongoing on both sides. Additionally, there were bricks, sand, and brick chips strewn all over the sites.

Humaira Mansur, a student at University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh who resides in Dhaka Udyan, said she has developed respiratory problems over the past

year due to the situation in the area.

"I had no breathing problems before moving from Uttara to this area a year ago. However, after consulting a doctor, I was diagnosed with respiratory issues. I am now considering leaving the area," she said.

Dr Ahmad Kamruzzaman Majumder, dean of the Faculty of Science at Stamford University Bangladesh and Chairman of the Center for Atmospheric Pollution Studies, pointed out that their research identifies this spot as one of the most polluted areas in Dhaka city.

"I visited the area a week ago and found the same issue," he said.

According to him, 70 percent of the pollution in the area results from black smoke emitted by unfit vehicles and dust from the roads. Ongoing government and private construction projects are responsible for the remaining thirty percent.

In the interim, he suggested frequent road watering to reduce pollution, and he recommended that road repairs be made as a permanent solution to the issue.

As for residents and commuters, they have to resort to whatever methods they need to manage their ailments.

Rafiqul Amin, a banker working at a private bank, voiced his worries regarding the dusty road during rush hour.

Nahian Jamal Joyeeta, another ULAB student who has been commuting to the area on a regular basis for the past four years, expressed similar sentiments.

"Since childhood, I have had dust allergies, sinus and asthma. My asthma hadn't relapsed for a long

time until I started coming to this area. It has worsened after Covid-19 since road constructions and volume of vehicles has increased," she said.

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SAGAR-RUNI MURDER

Probe submission deadline extended for 107th time

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday extended till February 27 the deadline for submitting the probe report of a case filed over the murders of journalist couple Sagar Sarwar and Meherun Runi in February 2012.

This is the 107th extension of the submission deadline. Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Md Shafiuddin passed the order as Rab Additional Superintendent of Police Khondoker Md Shafiul Alam, also the case's investigation officer, failed to submit the report yesterday.

Enact specific law to combat sexual harassment

Speakers at meeting urge govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a meeting yesterday urged the government to enact a specific law to prevent sexual harassment and gender-based violence.

Agnee project of Ain O Salish Kendra organised the meeting titled "The need for legislation to prevent sexual harassment" at the capital's Cirdap auditorium.

The High Court's directive providing specific guidelines to prevent sexual harassment of women and children in educational institutions and workplaces is not being properly implemented even after years, the speakers said.

"According to the constitution, this directive is supposed to act as a law until a specific law is enacted, but in practice it is not being exercised," said Advocate Asma Khanam Ruba, project coordinator at Agnee.

PM seeks more Saudi investments

Calls for French cooperation for development

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday sought more investments in Bangladesh from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to move forward measures taken by her government for socioeconomic advancement.

She said this when KSA Ambassador to Bangladesh Essa Yousef Essa Alduhailan paid a courtesy call on her at Gono Bhaban.

The PM's speech writer M Nazrul Islam briefed journalists.

The envoy handed over a congratulatory message from Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman Al Saud to Hasina on her reelection.

Meanwhile, at a meeting with French Ambassador Marie Masdupuy, Hasina sought cooperation from the development partners, including France, to sustain the ongoing development spree in Bangladesh.

On the Rohingya issue, the PM said the forcibly displaced Myanmar nationals must be repatriated to their homeland. She requested the French Gas Company to invest in Bangladesh's gas sector.

The envoy handed over a congratulatory message of French President Emmanuel Macron to Hasina for being reelected as the prime minister.

At least start the repatriation

Hasan Mahmud tells Myanmar counterpart on Rohingyas

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Foreign Minister Hasan Mahmud has told his counterpart from Myanmar Meng Thin Sung to start the Rohingya repatriation process on their January 20 meeting on the sidelines of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) summit in Uganda.

"I requested him to at least start the repatriation. He said they are looking at it seriously," he said yesterday after returning to the country.

He also raised the repatriation issue with UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres and Indian External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar during his visit on January 19-22. Hasan Mahmud told Guterres to appoint the UN's special envoy for Myanmar.

"Guterres in response said the appointment will be made at the soonest," he told reporters.

Meanwhile, World Bank Country Director Abdoulaye Seck called on the minister yesterday.

Seck told him WB will provide US\$700 million to Bangladesh -- \$315 million as grants for Rohingyas and \$385 million as soft loan for host community.

'Even BGB not secure at border' Says Rizvi

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Senior Joint Secretary General Ruhul Kabir Rizvi yesterday raised concerns over the security of BGB personnel at the Bangladesh-India border.

"For so long, I've seen ordinary Bangladeshis being killed by Indian border guards. And now I see that even the BGB has no security at the border," said Rizvi.

When the border guard force of another country kills the border guard personnel of an independent country, it is no ordinary incident. Rather, it is related to the question of the country's independence and sovereignty, he also said.

Meanwhile, at a discussion organised by Democratic Left Unity in the capital, BNP standing committee member Nazrul Islam Khan said there was no democracy left in the country as the prime minister chooses the winners, losers, and the opposition party of the polls.

"Politicians are no longer being elected as MPs these days. Rather, industrialists and business people are becoming members of parliament. But will they work to control the prices of essential goods if they turn into lawmakers?" he asked.

BFC
Biman Flight Catering Centre বিমান ফ্লাইট ক্যাটারিং সেন্টার
Invitation of International Tender Notice No. 10/2024

01	Agency	Biman Bangladesh Airlines Ltd.
02	Invitation for	Procurement of Bulk Butter unsalted (Foreign).
03	Invitation for Ref:	30.34.0000.063.15.006.23 Dated: 23-11-2023
04	Tender document selling date	From 28-01-2024 to 05-03-2024 (During office hours).
05	Tender receiving date and time	Date: 06-03-2024 Time: 12:00 Hrs BST Note: The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders without assigning any reason thereof. If any unavoidable situation arises during specified date then tender selling/closing/opening date will be shifted to next (working) day without further notice.
06	Tender opening date and time	Date: 06-03-2024 Time: 15:00 Hrs BST
07	Selling address of schedule (local)	(i) Address: a. Manager Finance, Biman Flight Catering Centre, Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, Kurmitola, Dhaka b. Manager Cash & Banking: Balaka Bhaban, Biman, Bangladesh Airlines, Dhaka.
08	Selling tender document (foreign)	(ii) Address: Manager Finance, Biman at Dubai, Bangkok, Singapore, London, Jeddah, Riyadh and Kuala Lumpur.
09	Receiving tender document	a. BFC Main Security Gate, Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, Kurmitola, Dhaka. b. Biman Balaka Bhaban, Security Counter Gate (Ground Floor), Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, Kurmitola, Dhaka.
10	Price of tender document (Tk)	USD 20.00 or BDT 2,000.00 (Two thousand) only per set (non-refundable).
1) Location 2) Tender security amount (USD/BDT) 3) Supplying period		
11	BFC/Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, Kurmitola, Dhaka	USD 7,200.00 or BDT 8,00,000.00 (Eight lac) only (refundable). 01 (one) year
12	Procuring entity & fund	General Manager, BFC, Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, Kurmitola, Dhaka. BIMAAN/BFC's own fund.
13	Official-inviting tender	Dy. General Manager, BFC, Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, Kurmitola, Dhaka. Phone: 880-2-8901760-64 Ext-13, Fax: 880-2-8901638
14	Tender schedule and other related information will be available in Biman website: www.biman-airlines.com for ready reference.	

GD-123 Dy. General Manager, BFC

CHITTAGONG HILL TRACTS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
UNIT OFFICE
BANDARBAN
www.chtdb.gov.bd

Memo No. 29.31.0000.013.07.113.20-38 Date: 20/01/2024

e-Tender Notice

This is to notify all concerned that the following tenders have published through e-GP Portal.

Tender ID	Reference No.	Type method	Publishing date/closing date
ID No:920491,	29.31.0000.013.07.113.20/2023-24/221001100-003,	NCT, OTM	23-Jan-2024 11:00:00 06-Feb-2024 16:00:00
ID No:933965,	29.31.0000.013.07.113.20/2023-24/221001100-046,	NCT, OTM	23-Jan-2024 11:00:00 06-Feb-2024 16:00:00
ID No:933966,	29.31.0000.013.07.113.20/2023-24/221001100-047,	NCT, OTM	23-Jan-2024 11:00:00 06-Feb-2024 16:00:00
ID No:934172,	29.31.0000.013.07.113.20/2023-24/221001100-052,	NCT, OTM	23-Jan-2024 11:00:00 06-Feb-2024 16:00:00
ID No:934174,	29.31.0000.013.07.113.20/2023-24/221001100-054,	NCT, OTM	23-Jan-2024 11:00:00 06-Feb-2024 16:00:00
ID No:934178,	29.31.0000.013.07.113.20/2023-24/221001100-056	NCT, OTM	23-Jan-2024 11:00:00 06-Feb-2024 16:00:00
ID No:934179,	29.31.0000.013.07.113.20/2023-24/221001100-057,	NCT, OTM	23-Jan-2024 11:00:00 06-Feb-2024 16:00:00

The interested firms/person may visit the website: (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) to get the details of the tender. This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Abu Bin Mohammad Yeaser Arafat
23/01/2024
Abu Bin Mohammad Yeaser Arafat
Executive Engineer
CHTDB, Bandarban
Phone No. 023333-02613
xen-ban@chtdb.gov.bd

GD-116

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
বন সংরক্ষণের কার্যালয়
বন্যপ্রাণী ও প্রকৃতি সংরক্ষণ অঞ্চল
বন ভবন, আগারগাঁও, শেরেবাগা নগর, ঢাকা

Bangabandhu Award for Wildlife Conservation-2024

এতদ্বারা সর্বসাধারণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, বন্যপ্রাণী সংরক্ষণ কার্যক্রমে নিয়োজিত বন্যপ্রাণী সংরক্ষণবাদী ব্যক্তি ও প্রতিষ্ঠানকে জাতীয়ভাবে উৎসাহিত করার লক্ষ্যে সরকার "Bangabandhu Award for Wildlife Conservation" প্রবর্তন করেছেন। ২০১২ সালে জারিকৃত নীতিমালা অনুযায়ী বিগত বছরের ন্যায় এ বছরও নিম্নোক্ত ০৩ (তিনটি) ক্যাটাগরিতে পুরস্কার প্রদান করা হবেঃ

শ্রেণী	পুরস্কারের ক্যাটাগরি	বিষয় বিষয়
ক	বন ও বন্যপ্রাণী সংরক্ষণ কাজে নিয়োজিত কর্মকর্তা, খ্যাতিমান গবেষক, বিজ্ঞানী, বন্যপ্রাণী সংরক্ষণবাদী ব্যক্তি ও গণমাধ্যম কর্মী/ব্যক্তিত্ব	বন্যপ্রাণী সংরক্ষণ বিষয়ক শিক্ষা, গবেষণা ও নিবন্ধন প্রকাশ এবং মাঠ পর্যায়ে অবদান। বন্যপ্রাণীর আবাসস্থল উন্নয়ন ও সংরক্ষণে অবদান। বন্যপ্রাণী সংক্রান্ত অপরাধ দমন এবং মানুষ-বন্যপ্রাণী দ্বন্দ্ব নিরসনে অবদান।
খ	বন্যপ্রাণী বিষয়ক শিক্ষা ও গবেষণা	বিরল ও বিলুপ্তপ্রায় বন্যপ্রাণী সংরক্ষণ ও ক্যাপটিভ ব্রিডিং কর্মসূচিতে অবদান।
গ	বন্যপ্রাণী সংরক্ষণে নিবেদিত প্রতিষ্ঠান	বন্যপ্রাণী সংরক্ষণে গণসচেতনতা সৃষ্টিতে অবদান।

পুরস্কারঃ প্রত্যেক ব্যক্তি/প্রতিষ্ঠানকে ২ ভরি ওজনের স্বর্ণপদক, ০১টি সনদপত্র ও ৫০,০০০/- টাকা প্রদান করা হবে।
আবেদনপত্র দাখিল করার পদ্ধতিঃ বাংলাদেশের যে কোন ব্যক্তি বা প্রতিষ্ঠান উপরে বর্ণিত ক্যাটাগরিতে আবেদন করতে পারবেন। প্রতিটি আবেদনে ০৩ (তিন) কপি জীবন বৃত্তান্তসহ নিম্নবর্ণিত তথ্য সংযুক্তি হিসেবে দাখিল করতে হবে।
১। ব্যক্তি বা প্রতিষ্ঠানের নাম ও পূর্ণ ঠিকানা, ২। কাজের অধিক্ষেত্র, ৩। ব্যক্তি বা প্রতিষ্ঠান কর্তৃক বাস্তবায়িত উল্লেখযোগ্য কাজের বিবরণ (প্রামাণ্যকসহ) এবং ৪। বাস্তবায়িত কার্যক্রমের প্রেক্ষিতে বন্যপ্রাণী ও প্রকৃতি সংরক্ষণে প্রাপ্ত বা স্কিলিত ফলাফলের বিবরণ।
আবেদনকারীকে আগামী ২৪/০১/২০২৪ঃ তারিখের মধ্যে ক্যাটাগরি উল্লেখপূর্বক সংযুক্তিসহ স্বাক্ষরিত আবেদনপত্র বন সংরক্ষণ, বন্যপ্রাণী ও প্রকৃতি সংরক্ষণ অঞ্চল, বন ভবন, শের-ই-বাংলা নগর, আগারগাঁও, ঢাকা- ১২০৭ বরাবরে সফটকপি ও হার্ডকপি দাখিল করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো।

ইমরান আহমেদ
বন সংরক্ষণ
বন্যপ্রাণী ও প্রকৃতি সংরক্ষণ অঞ্চল, ঢাকা
ফোনঃ ০২-৫৫০০৭১১১
E-mail: cf-wildlife@bforest.gov.bd

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