



Dead fish, crabs, and other aquatic creatures appear on the surface of the Karnaphuli, a river that now chokes on a thick layer of dissolved burnt sugar following a fire at a sugar refinery in Chattogram. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

TAQI MURDER Ivy demands speedy trial

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

Demanding justice for Tanwir Muhammad Taqi, who was murdered in 2013, Narayanganj City Corporation Mayor Selina Hayat Ivy urged the government to punish the culprits following a speedy trial, regardless of how influential they are.

"We all had the demand of a swift trial in the murder case. Despite the existence

Upazila chairman sued over rape

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Chairman of Khulna's Dumuria upazila was sued in a case filed yesterday in connection with the rape and abduction of a girl.

The accused also include six named and 10-15 unnamed individuals

The named accused are Gazi Ejaz Ahmed, chairman of Dumuria upazila parishad; Gazi Tauhiduzzaman, chairman of Rudagha union parishad; his brother Gazi Abdul Haque; Al Amin Gazi; Aktarul Alam (Sumon); Saddam Gazi; and Md Imran Hossain.

According to the case statement, Gazi Ejaz had raped the girl multiple times previously promising to marry her. On January 27, he raped her again at his office before she managed to flee.

Later, the victim was admitted to Khulna Medical College Hospital. On January 28, some of the named and unnamed accused abducted the girl and her mother from the hospital's One-Stop Crisis Centre, it added.

They forced and intimidated the victim and her mother to give statements to Sonadanga Police Station stating that the girl had not been raped, the statement also said.

A relative of the victim lodged the complaint with a Khulna court yesterday morning after Dumuria Police Station refused to take the case. The judge took note of the complaint and directed

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Karnaphuli's marine life under threat

Carcasses wash ashore as burnt sugar contaminates river

ARUN BIKASH DEY and SHAFAYET ULLAH, Ctg

Different aquatic species in the Karnaphuli River have been dying after burnt raw sugar from S Alam Refined Sugar Industries Limited contaminated the water, following a fire on Monday

Visiting the river near the refinery in Karnaphuli upazila yesterday, this correspondent saw dead fish, crabs, snakes, and other aquatic species floating in the water, contaminated by a thick layer of burnt sugar.

The officials of the refinery claimed the fire burnt around 1,00,000 tonnes of raw sugar.

While the blaze was brought under control at around 11:00pm on that day, it is yet to be doused completely, said fire service officials.

It would be difficult to extinguish the fire unless the raw sugar can be removed from the spot, said Purna Chandra Mutsuddi, assistant director of Fire Service in Chattogram.

Many people were seen collecting fishes from different parts of the river.

"As the burnt sugar, which is toxic, contaminates the river, its dissolved

oxygen level decreased, causing the fish and other organisms to die," said Dr Diderul Alam Chowdhury, associate professor of Applied Chemistry and Chemical Engineering Department at Chittagong University.

"If people consume those fishes, they would be at risk of developing

and Canals of Chattogram.

Dr Mahfuzur Rahman, convener of Protection of Karnaphuli River, urged authorities concerned to take urgent measures.

"Our men are dumping the waste at our place with excavators. We are not letting any polluted water out...



liver and intestinal diseases," he added.

Prof Dr Mahmudur Rahman, former director of Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR), echoed him.

"This will severely damage the river's ecological balance," said Aliur Rahman, general secretary of Movement for Protection of Rivers

We have our own ETP plant," said Mostain Billah Adil, head of estate, S Alam Group.

Contacted, Ferdous Anwar, deputy director of Department of Environment in Chattogram, said they are unaware of the ways to prevent a spill like this.

"However, we will take steps as per the law," he added.

Government of the People's of Republic of Bangladesh Local Government Engineering Department Office of the Upazila Engineer Nawabganj, Dhaka. e-Tender Invitation e-Tender Notice No :04/2023-24. MEMO NO: 46.02.2662.000.18.015.18- 386 Date : 06/03/2024

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গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়, ব্রাহ্মণবাড়িয়া। উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং- ০১/২০২৩-২০২৪