



## Declare heatwave as a disaster

### Speakers urge at seminar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

There is no way to see heatwaves separately; they should be considered another disaster instead, said speakers at an event.

"In terms of productivity, health impact, and considering all other aspects of heatwaves, we have to consider it another disaster," Asif Saleh, executive director at BRAC, remarked while addressing a seminar titled "Heatwave in Bangladesh" on Thursday.

BRAC organised the seminar at a city hotel in the capital's Gulshan.

While delivering the closing remarks, Asif Saleh said the country should not consider climate change as a separate issue either.

"All our planning, be it construction or urban issues, must incorporate climate change considerations. The policies we initiate only work when properly implemented and monitored," he said.

He also advocated for structural planning in the greater interest of the environment and climate change.

Farhina Ahmed, secretary to the environment ministry, said research clearly shows heatwaves are affecting livelihoods, the atmosphere, the ecosystem, and everything in between.

She said the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) could not address the unprecedented heatwaves as it was formulated back in 2022.

"However, in the NAP, we have given high priority to scientific research, innovation, and capacity building on climate change issues to make informed decisions and included these heat issues as one of the key eight sectors," she said.

According to scientific research, the NAP had indications and predictions for heatwaves, she said.

**As per the presentation shown in the seminar, it was said that a loss of around 4.9 percent of GDP can happen by 2030 due to productivity loss in labour forces because of heatwaves.**

## DHAKA SHISHU PARK

# Development work begins, finally

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The development work of Dhaka Shishu Park is finally starting today after the park remained closed for five and half years.

"Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will inaugurate the development work of Shishu Park on Saturday. After that we will start the park's construction and renovation work. Hopefully, we will complete the work within two years," said Dhaka South City Corporation Mayor Sheikh Fazle Noor Taposh.

The DSCC will manage the park and reopen it for children after the development work is completed, said project officials.

**SHISHU PARK AT A GLANCE**  
Dhaka Shishu Park is the country's first amusement park for children located in Shahbagh. It was originally a venture of the Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation and was named after former president Ziaur Rahman.

The then Dhaka City Corporation later took jurisdiction of the 15-acre park in 1983. After the DCC

split into Dhaka North and Dhaka South in November 2011, DSCC took charge of the park, and later renamed it after Huseyn Shaheed Suhrawardy on December 30, 2021.

Since its inception, Shishu Park has always been a major recreational spot for children in the capital, especially during holidays.



Since January 2019, Eid holidays came and went by 11 times but the park remained closed.

The Public Works Department (PWD), which owns the park's land, was initially involved in constructing an underground car parking under the Ministry of Liberation War Affairs' Swadhinata Stambha (Phase-3) project. Upon the project's

completion, the land was handed over to the DSCC for continuation of modernisation efforts.

**PROJECT DETAILS**

The DSCC prepared a Tk 603 crore development project for Shishu Park in the budget for FY 2023-2024 and sent it to the local government ministry, which was later approved by the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council in October last year, said DSCC officials.

The government will provide Tk 483 crore for the project's implementation, of which half will be as grant and the rest as loan at five percent interest. The DSCC will bear the rest of the cost.

Once renovated, the park will introduce 15 new rides, including Mine Train Roller Coaster, Disk'O Mega 40, Super Air Race, Tea Cup 9, Flying Carrouseles, Endeavour, Galleon, 12D Theatre, Climbing Car, Bumper Car, Magic Bikes, Trampoline Bed, Super Happy Swing, Merry Go Round, and Water Mania.



Proposed design of the park.

SOURCE: DSCC

## Govt will not protect anyone if found guilty

### Says Quader on former IGP, ex-army chief

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader yesterday said the government will never protect anyone found guilty of a crime, whoever he is — a former IGP or chief of army staff.

"We must realise that no matter how influential a person is, they may commit a crime. The question is if the government has enough courage to book them [the perpetrators] for a crime," said Quader.

While addressing a press briefing at the AL headquarters in the capital's Gulistan, he presented the government's stance about the US sanction on former chief of army staff Aziz Ahmed and the court's order to freeze the bank accounts and seize the assets of former IGP Benazir Ahmed.

Quader said, "No one can get away after committing a crime. The judiciary and the Anti-Corruption Commission are independent bodies. Why would we protect someone if he is found guilty? There is no question about protecting a former IGP or army chief."

"The Sheikh Hasina government has zero-tolerance against crime. Committing a crime entails punishment," he added.

## Cop hurt as bus ploughs through police box

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A passenger bus from Shikhar Paribahan crashed into a traffic police box in the capital's Matsya Bhaban area yesterday, leaving a policeman injured.

The incident occurred around 11:00am, said M Elis Mahmud, sub-inspector of Shahbagh Police Station.

Police said after the speeding bus rammed into the police box, its driver fled the scene abandoning the vehicle.

Md Rezwan, sub-inspector of the Public Order Management of Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP), suffered injuries on his face and was admitted to Central Police Hospital in Rajarbagh.

Efforts are ongoing to apprehend the bus driver, the police officer added.

## BIRTH, DEATH REGISTRATION

# Revenue over public suffering?

### DSCC defying LGD order of reverting to central server

DIPAN NANDY

The Local Government Division has instructed Dhaka South City Corporation to utilise the central server of the Registrar General's Office for issuing birth and death certificates to residents within their jurisdiction, over its own.

The LGD sent a letter to DSCC Chief Executive Officer Md Mizanur Rahman to this effect on May 13. However, DSCC is yet to comply with it.

This directive comes after a period of friction between DSCC and central Registrar General's Office. In June 2023, DSCC demanded to retain revenue generated from issuing birth and death certificates. However, revenue for issuing

these services goes in the national treasury.

DSCC then suspended issuing birth and death certificates for which people were the ultimate sufferers.



On October 4, DSCC launched its own server to issue birth and death certificates, and kept the service charge to themselves. Since October last year, about 80,000 citizens

have registered through DSCC's new server, sources said.

The service charge per application was Tk 100, meaning DSCC generated a revenue of Tk 80,00,000 in the last seven months.

However, this too came at a cost of city dwellers. While the DSCC's server streamlined the application process for its residents, it operated independently of the national server. This meant that birth and death information registered through the DSCC system was not being recorded centrally.

This created a significant hurdle for DSCC residents seeking services that rely on national registration data, such as passports and driving licenses.

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Rafiqun Nabi, accompanied by Square Toiletries Managing Director Anjan Chowdhury and Prothom Alo Editor Matur Rahman, presents the Meril-Prothom Alo Lifetime Achievement Award to Ekushey Padak winner Masud Ali Khan yesterday. The 25th iteration of the event was held at the Bangabandhu International Convention Centre in Sher-e-Bangla Nagar.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

# প্রাপ্তির পূর্ণতায়

জাতীয় অর্থনীতির শিল্পখাতে অবদানের স্বীকৃতিস্বরূপ  
রাষ্ট্রপতির শিল্প উন্নয়ন পুরস্কার ২০২৩ অর্জন করলো  
রংপুর ফাউন্ড্রী লিমিটেড (আরএফএল)

ছাপানু হাজার বর্গমাইল জুড়ে ছড়িয়ে যাক এই গৌরবের সৌরভ, এ অর্জন তো আপনাদেরই!



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