

Environmental action plan a top priority

Rizwana tells seminar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Environment, Forest, and Climate Change Adviser Syeda Rizwana Hasan said that the ministry's top priority is to implement a cost-effective, time bound action plan to tackle the country's pressing environmental issues.

"We may not be able to complete the work to a large extent, but we will start this work," she said at a seminar organised by the Jatiya Nagorik Committee at the water resources ministry auditorium in the capital yesterday.

Rizwana identified air and noise pollution, soil degradation, and river pollution as Bangladesh's major environmental challenges, saying that Bangladesh faces nearly all types of global environmental problems except volcanic eruptions. "Bangladesh has the most polluted air globally and ranks first in noise pollution," she said.

"Additionally, 78 percent of Bangladesh's soil is contaminated due to excessive chemical use and salinity. Our rivers rank among the most polluted worldwide, and Dhaka is one of the most unlivable cities in the world. How many years will you give me to fix these issues?" she asked.

"This is a mess of 53 years that cannot be fixed in a short period of time," she added.

Rizwana said that the ministry instructed district commissioners to submit plans for the restoration of one polluted, and occupied river in each district, with a focus on cost-effective and timely approaches.

"Two months have passed and we have received plans from 57 districts," she said.



Pedestrians jaywalk across this road amid oncoming traffic near the Sonargaon circle in the capital. Despite foot-over bridges being readily available nearby, most people still choose to riskily cross the street even when vehicles are not stopped for a signal. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

Students at DU denounce JCD's poster campaign

DU CORRESPONDENT

A section of Dhaka University students brought out a protest rally on Wednesday night after Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) activists put up posters across the campus, violating the recent ban on student politics.

The posters were set up marking National Revolution and Solidarity Day, which was observed yesterday.

Students from Bijoy Ekattor Hall brought out the rally around 9:30pm. They were later joined by students from other dormitories, including Muktiyoddha Ziaur Rahman, Kobi Jasimuddin, and Haji Muhammad Mohsin halls.

Taking to different streets across DU, the students chanted slogans, reinforcing the ban on campus politics.

"Despite the campus ban on student politics, Chhatra Dal has put up posters here. They are attempting to bring back student politics in the halls," said Mir Muhammad Asif, a protester, adding that they will continue their movement till the administration removes all the posters from the hall walls.

Criticising the university administration's role, Mossaddik Ali, a co-coordinator of the anti-discrimination student movement, said, "The syndicate has temporarily banned student politics. Most students do not support politics in the halls. How can any political party put up posters in the halls despite the ban?"

The protesters also claimed that Chhatra Dal activists had threatened students for tearing down posters or opposing their campaign.

Talking to The Daily Star yesterday, Ganesh Chandra Roy Shahosh, president of the DU unit of JCD, said while they welcome political criticism and debate, they cannot accept the protest as "democratic criticism," as it did not follow a democratic process.

Raising the issue in this manner and using muscle power is not a democratic approach, he added.

"This kind of political activity reminds us of the trauma of the fascist regime," Ganesh also said.

Visiting Bijoy Ekattor Hall around 11:00pm on Wednesday, DU Proctor Saifuddin Ahmed said, "We have not established a final framework for student politics yet. We have no issues with National Revolution and Solidarity Day observance or the posters featuring Ziaur Rahman. Removing the posters would undermine the dignity of individuals. We will take a decision upon further discussion on the matter."

SHEIKH RUSSEL MODEL SCHOOL Unapproved college puts students in limbo

NURAHSAN MRIDUL, Rajshahi

Sheikh Russel Model School under Rajshahi University has expanded its classes beyond grade 8 without necessary approvals, leaving over 100 students in academic uncertainty.

Initially authorised to operate only up to grade 8, the school gradually enrolled students in grades 9 and 10 without formal permission. This year, it admitted 104 students to a newly introduced college section, charging each Tk 7,000.

However, three months have passed without any classes, sparking protests

a university syndicate meeting and subsequent verification by the Rajshahi Education Board.

IER Director Akter Banu said verifications would likely result in rejection due to proximity rules. "Rules state two colleges should be at least 2km apart, but Rajshahi University School and College is located just across the road," she said.

Former IER director Prof Dulal Chandra Bishwas said while he initially opposed the college expansion, teachers bypassed standard procedures by approaching former RU Vice-Chancellor (VC) Golam Sabbir directly.



from students who are now unable to register for the Higher Secondary Certificate exams due to administrative obstacles.

Recently, frustrated students locked the school gates and confined the director of the Institute of Educational Research (IER) of RU, demanding immediate action on the class schedule and exam registration issues.

Documents obtained by this newspaper reveal that the school lacked approval from both the university's managing committee and the IER to establish a college section. Such authorisation requires approval from

"After students were admitted, I tried to start the programme, but delays arose due to the July-August movements," he said. He lacked authority over the final approval, he added.

Former VC Golam Sabbir, however, claimed he could not recall granting such permission. He said he would have followed due process if he had approved the section.

Current RU VC Saleh Hasan Naqib said, "We are considering transferring the students to other colleges."

Rajshahi Education Board Chairman Prof Oliul Ala declined to comment on the matter.

Judiciary committed to protecting human rights

Chief justice tells
British envoy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Justice Syed Refaat Ahmed yesterday reiterated his commitment to establish rule of law in the country and assured that the judiciary is determined to protect human rights.

He said this at a meeting with a two-member delegation including Sarah Cooke, UK high commissioner to Bangladesh.

The delegation made the courtesy call at the chief justice's Supreme Court office.

During the meeting, Sarah Cooke appreciated various initiatives taken by the CJ to institutionalise the independence of the country's judiciary in recent times.

Besides, she expressed interest in working with Bangladesh on various bilateral issues related to judiciary.

The chief justice also emphasised the mutual cooperation and assured of full cooperation in this regard, said a press release.

20 fishers rescued from Arakan Army

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

The Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) has brought back 20 Bangladeshi fishermen who were detained by the Arakan Army, an armed rebel group in Myanmar, after they had accidentally crossed into Myanmar's waters while fishing in the Naf River two days ago.

The Arakan Army handed over the fishermen to the BGB on yesterday evening, confirmed Lt Col Md Mohiuddin Ahmed, commanding officer of BGB Battalion 2 in Teknaf.

Lt Col Ahmed said on November 5, the fishermen, operating from the Shahparir Dwip trawler ghat in Teknaf, set out for fishing in the Bay of Bengal.

However, they inadvertently crossed the zero line of the Bangladesh-Myanmar border and entered the Naikhongdia waters in Myanmar.

The Arakan Army subsequently detained the 20 fishers along with their boat. Following negotiations and communication with the Arakan Army, BGB was able to secure their release, Lt Col Ahmed said.

The fishermen were then transported to the Shahparir Dwip jetty, where they were handed over to their families, he added.

Seven more die of dengue

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least seven dengue patients died in the last 24 hours till yesterday morning while 1,209 patients were hospitalised during the same period.

Among the deaths, four occurred in Dhaka South City Corporation, two in Dhaka North City Corporation, and one in Khulna division.

According to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), with these new deaths and cases, the total number of fatalities has risen to 337, and the total number of cases to 69,456, of which 40,775 are from outside Dhaka.

Currently, 4,326 dengue patients are undergoing treatment at hospitals.

ঢাকা পাওয়ার ডিস্ট্রিবিউশন কোম্পানি লিমিটেড
DHAKA POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LIMITED
(An Enterprise of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh)
Website: www.dpdc.gov.bd

Memo No: 87.404.401.08.05.001.2024.163 Date: 05.11.2024

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Name of the Post: Junior Assistant Manager (ICT) - Number of post 06. Please visit www.dpdc.gov.bd for detail job circular.

বি-আর পাওয়ারজেন লিঃ
(সরকারি বিদ্যুৎ উৎপাদনকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান)

স্মারক নং-২৭.৩১.০০০০.০০৫.২৩.০১২.২৩.২৮৮ তারিখঃ ০৬-১১-২০২৪খ্রিঃ

বি-আর পাওয়ারজেন লিঃ এ নিম্নবর্ণিত পদে সরাসরি নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে বাংলাদেশের প্রকৃত নাগরিকদের নিকট হতে দরখাস্ত আহবান করা যাচ্ছেঃ

নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

পদের নাম	বেতন	পদ সংখ্যা
নির্বাহী পরিচালক (প্রকৌশল) বয়সসীমাঃ সর্বোচ্চ ৬০ বছর	মূল বেতন ১,৪৯,০০০/- এবং কোম্পানিতে প্রচলিত অন্যান্য সুবিধা।	০১ (একটি)

আবেদন গ্রহণের সর্বশেষ তারিখঃ ০৮-১২-২০২৪ বিকাল ৫.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত। বিস্তারিত দেখতে ভিজিট করুনঃ বি-আর পাওয়ারজেন লিঃ এর ওয়েবসাইট <https://brpowergen.gov.bd>

মোঃ ওয়াহিদুর রহমান
ডিজিএম (এইচআর ও এডমিন)

GD-900

Three killed in Satkhira road accident

UNB, Satkhira

Three people were killed as a truck hit a motorcycle on Satkhira-Khulna highway in Satkhira Sadar upazila early yesterday, said police.

The deceased are Arizul Gazi, 28, of Jashore's Jhikargachha upazila and Asadul Islam Fakir, 55, and Abdus Selim, 35, of Tala upazila in Satkhira.

Confirming the accident, Sadar Police Station's Sub-Inspector Biswajit Sarkar said a truck rammed a motorbike in Binerpota BSCIC area, leaving its driver and two pillion passengers dead on the spot. After recovery, the bodies were sent to Satkhira Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsy, he said.

The bodies will be handed over to the families upon autopsy, he said, adding that no one has been detained in this connection so far.

Office of the Chowgacha Paurashava
Chowgacha, Jashore

Memo No. Chowpau/2024/539 Date: 07-11-2024

Invitation for Tender (IFT For Works)
OTM e-Tender Notice No. 02/2024-2025

The e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of works mention below.

Tender ID No.	Name of schedule	Last selling / security date & time	Tender closing/opening date & time
1032449	LGCRRP/Chowgacha/2024-25/W-05 A. Construction of RCC Drain from Sutipur Stand, B. Construction of RCC Drain from Md. Dablu house, C. Construction of RCC Drain from Nuruzzaman Garaz, D. Construction of RCC Drain from Md. Moshiar Rahman Master house E. Construction of RCC Drain from Sree Ananda house	27-11-2024 17.00	28-11-2024 13.00

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 Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal from e-GP helpdesk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Mst. Tasmin Jahan
Administrator
Chowgacha Paurashava, Jashore

GD- 903