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NCP rejects water lily bud as symbol after EC adds it

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission yesterday added "shapla koli" (water lily bud) to its list of electoral symbols.

The commission issued a gazette notification, which includes a list of 119 electoral symbols, saying that any contesting candidate may be allocated any of the symbols except the suspended ones.

The EC incorporated "shapla koli" at a time when the National Citizen Party and the EC are in a tug-of-war over the electoral symbol "shapla" (water lily).

The NCP is adamant on getting the symbol, while the EC repeatedly stated that it had no scope to allocate water lily to any party, as it does not exist in the commission's official list of registered symbols.

However, the NCP yesterday rejected EC's move, saying that the party would not make any compromise over the water lily symbol.

Speaking at a seminar at its central office at the Rupayan tower, NCP Chief Convenor Nasiruddin Patwary said, "The NCP wants the water lily symbol, and it will contest the polls with that symbol. We are uncompromising on this issue and will not give it up under any circumstances."

He also urged the EC to "quickly include water lily in its list".

When contacted, NCP Joint Member Secretary Zahidul Islam Musa told The Daily Star that they just want the water lily symbol. "We will respond once the symbols are allocated. They have not been allocated yet. But we must be given water lily."

Meanwhile, the symbol "boat" has been mentioned as suspended in the new EC gazette.

On June 22, newly formed NCP submitted its application for registration

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This photo, taken from a position along Israel's border with the Gaza Strip, shows smoke billowing during an Israeli strike on the besieged Palestinian territory yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

Israel tests Gaza's fragile truce

Its military says 'terrorist infrastructure' targeted

AGENCIES

Israeli planes and tanks pounded areas in eastern Gaza yesterday, Palestinian residents and witnesses said, a day after Israel said it remained committed to a US-backed ceasefire despite launching more lethal bombardments in the territory.

Witnesses said Israeli planes carried out 10 airstrikes in areas east of Khan Younis in the southern Gaza Strip, while tanks shelled areas east of Gaza City in the north. No injuries or deaths were reported.

Hamas also agreed to hand over

the remains of all 28 dead hostages. It has returned 15 bodies, arguing that it will take time to locate and retrieve all of them. The group's armed wing announced yesterday that it would hand over two more bodies of hostages at 4:00 pm local time (1400 GMT).

The Israeli military said it carried out "precise" strikes against "terrorist infrastructure that posed a threat to the troops" in the areas, which Israel still occupies.

The strikes were the latest test of the fragile ceasefire that came into effect on October 10 in the conflict between Israel and Hamas. Under the ceasefire accord, Hamas released all living hostages in return for nearly 2,000 Palestinian prisoners and wartime detainees, while Israel pulled back its troops and agreed to halt its offensive.

A Turkish disaster response team is still waiting by the Gaza border for Israeli approval to enter the Palestinian territory to help with search and rescue operations, a defence ministry source said yesterday.

Ankara is hoping its role as a

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BLEEDING IN SILENCE

The unheard struggles of Bangladesh's tea women

TANGILA TASnim

Under the blazing sun in Moulvibazar's Madhabkunda Tea Estate, 43-year old Apola Kumari picks around 23 kilograms of tea leaves daily for Tk 178.

Her wages barely feed her family, while she faces another silent struggle -- one that many are reluctant to mention.

"I can't even afford food for my family. How will I buy sanitary napkins? I use old, torn sarees during my period. My two daughters do the same," she said.

Both her daughters were married off right after their SSC exams to tea garden workers like their mother. They too are now struggling on the same meagre wages.



Apola added, "During menstruation, I feel itchy and unwell. There's no place to wash properly, no money for medicine. I just keep working and suffering."

Geeta, another tea worker, said menstruation makes her gruelling days even worse. "There's only one washroom near our workplace, used by both men and women. When I get my period, the pain in my back and legs feels like my bones are breaking. But if I stop even for a while, I lose the

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CRADLES IN THE CANOPY

PHOTO: NOBEL CHAKMA

A Phayre's leaf monkey mother cradles her infant amid the lush canopies of Moulvibazar's Lawachhara National Park, the baby's wide eyes fixed curiously on the camera. Native to eastern Bangladesh, northeast India, and western Myanmar, this elusive primate thrives in evergreen and bamboo forests, feeding on young leaves, shoots, fruits, and seeds. The Phayre's leaf monkey is easily recognised by its white "spectacled" eye rings and infants' golden-orange fur. Shy yet social, they live almost entirely in the treetops, rarely descending to the forest floor. But deforestation, hunting, and encroachment have driven them to the brink. Listed as "Endangered" by the IUCN, their survival depends on protecting forests and empowering community-led conservation.

NCP wants Yunus to issue order before it signs July charter

Consensus commission's tenure ends today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The National Citizen Party, formed by student leaders who spearheaded last year's July uprising, had yet to sign the July charter till yesterday.

The party now says it will sign the document only after the government issues the July charter implementation order.

"The signing could happen at any moment, but Prof Yunus must sign the implementation order first," NCP Senior Joint Convenor Samanta Shermeen told this newspaper last night.

In addition to a legal foundation and a formal constitutional order, the NCP also wants clarity on how the notes of dissent on key issues will be addressed and what questions will be included in the proposed referendum.

Meanwhile, the tenure of the National Consensus Commission is scheduled to end today.

When contacted, Prof Ali Riaz, vice president of the consensus commission, said they have communicated with the parties that

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Rab recovers arms cache during raid

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, ctg

Rab yesterday recovered a large cache of firearms and ammunition during a drive in Raozan upazila of Chattogram.

Two people were detained.

The operation was carried out at the premises of one Kamal Uddin's house in Ward-4 in the Noapara area under Raozan Police Station, said Lt Col Md Hafizur Rahman, commander of Rab-7.

He confirmed that the Rab team seized 12 firearms, 10 machetes, and a large quantity of cartridges from the location.

According to Rab's initial probe, the weapons may be linked to a series of recent killings in Raozan, which has seen several murders, reportedly stemming from political rivalries and turf wars.

On Saturday, Jubo Dal activist Muhammad Alamgir Alam was shot dead in Raozan, while on October 7, BNP activist Muhammad Abdul Hakim, 52, was gunned down in Madunaghata, Hathazari, while returning home from Khamarbari.

ঢাকা উত্তর সিটি কর্পোরেশন

গুলশান সেন্টার পায়েন্ট, গুলশান-২, ঢাকা-১২১২
"আপনার শহর সুন্দর ও পরিষ্কৃত রাখুন। আপনার শিশুকে টিকা দিন।"

গণবিজ্ঞপ্তি

- এডিস মশা ডেন্টু রোগের বাহক। এডিস মশার বিভাগের রোধে আপনার বাড়ির ডের প্রবেশ চারপাশ পরিষ্কার পরিষ্কৃত রাখুন। ফুলের টব, ডাবের খামো, পরিতাক্ত টায়ার ইত্যাদি সহ পরিতাক্ত যোকন মাত্রে মানি জমে থাকল প্রতি ৩ দিনের মাধ্যে অবশাই পরিষ্কার করুন।
- বাড়ীর আঙিনা, ছাদ, বারান্দা, গ্যারেজের কাথাও মানি জমাতে দেবন না।
- অপ্রয়োজনীয় ও পরিতাক্ত পাত্রসমূহ সরিয়ে ফেলুন।
- বর্ষাকালে ছাদ বাগান অথবা বারান্দার কোন টৈবে যেন মানি জমাতে না পারে তা নিশ্চিত করুন।
- বাড়ীর বেজামেন্ট এ জমে থাকা মানি নিয়মিত পরিষ্কার করুন।
- নিম্নাধীন বাড়ী এডিস মশার অন্তর্মত বৎস বিভাগের স্থান, এ বাপাতে নির্মাণ প্রক্রিয়ার সচেতন ও নির্দেশনা প্রদান করুন।
- মানির মিটারে জমে থাকা মানি একবার ডিএনসিসি কর্তৃক বিনামূলো সরবরাহকৃত (নোভেলিউরোন (মসকিউটেন) ট্যাবলেট প্রয়োগ করুন।
- শরীরের বেশিরভাগ অংশ প্রবেশ হাত, পা চাকা থাকে এমন কাপড় পরিধান করুন।
- দিনে প্রবেশ হাতে বিশ্রাম অথবা ঘুমানোর সময় মশার বাইরে থাকে না পারে তা নিশ্চিত করুন।
- সঞ্চারে ছুটির দিন নিয়ম করে ঘরের আঙিনা পরিষ্কার করুন।
- আপনার বাড়ির আঙিনা/শাসনা/প্রতির্দ্বন্দ্বে এডিস মশার লার্টা পাওয়া গোল ডিএনসিসির নির্বাচী মার্জিস্ট্রেটের সহযোগিতায় মোবাইল কোটের মাধ্যমে বিধি মোতাবেক আইনগত ব্যবস্থা প্রদর্শ করা হব।
- ডেন্টু মোসুম জুর হলে ভাত্তারের পরামর্শ অনুযায়ী রক্ত পরিষ্কার করুন ও চিকিৎসা প্রদর্শ করুন।
- নগর স্বাস্থ্যকেন্দ্রে বিনামূলো ডেন্টু মোসুমের সুযোগ প্রদর্শ করুন। আপনার নিকটবর্তী নগর স্বাস্থ্য কেন্দ্রের ঠিকানা পেতে ডিজিট করুন। www.dncc.gov.bd
- ডিএনসিসি অথবা আপনার এলাকার সামগ্রিক ডেন্টু পরিষ্কার জানতে www.dncc.gov.bd ওয়েবসাইটের ডাশবোর্ড দেখুন।
- ডেন্টু ব্রেগ প্রবেশ করণীয় সম্পর্কে জানতে ডিএনসিসি প্রের চাটোর্চ 01341831888 প্রে সহায়তা নিন।



মশার উৎস ছাঁস করি, ডেন্টু মুক্ত দেশ গড়ি

মশক নিয়ন্ত্রণ প্রয়োজন, জনগনের অংশগ্রহণ