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Thrust on preserving ponds for reducing water-logging

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Our Correspondent

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Thrust on preserving ponds for reducing water-logging

KHULNA, Apr 8: Experts at a day-long workshop here on Sunday stressed the need for preserving ponds for reducing water-logging.

These ponds can also be used as reservoirs for safe drinking water and become handy during fire incidents, they further said.

The opinions floated at a 'Stakeholder Workshop on Leveraging Solutions for Sustainable Pond Management of Khulna City, held in the city.

The experts also suggested addressing the historical ponds, considering these as archaeological sites and making these as tourist spots.

The experts also suggested fish-catching competition, which might encourage to preserve the ponds as well and it might increase funds for the authority.

Jagrata Juba Sangha (JJS), a non-government organisation, organised the workshop in association with Mott





MacDonald, a Nederland-based consultancy firm.

Pond owners, community people, environmentalists, journalists, NGOs, international NGOs, KWASA, and KCC Conservancy Department participated in the workshop.

Md Atikul Islam, professor of Environmental Science Discipline of Khulna University, Md Kamal Uddin Ahmed, deputy managing director of Khulna Water and Sewerage Authority (KWASA), and Md. Joynal Abedin, jonal coordinator, Blue Gold, Khulna, spoke at the workshop while ATM Zakir Hossain, executive director of JJS, facilitated the workshop.

Md Atikul Islam said most of the ponds in the South-Western region including Khulna City have unique histories of their own. Many were dug up to help people.

Md Kamal Uddin Ahmed, DMD, KWASA, said Khulna is the third largest divisional city of Bangladesh, and due to urbanization, the city is expanding and people needs and demands have changed. Consequently, large infrastructural development has been happening in the city, which is responsible for losing a number of ponds, as well as using sand for filling up new lands might be harmful for the ground water, he also added.

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