

Uttara University students stand against pollution

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Thousands of students from Uttara University and Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) formed a human chain in front of the university on Monday, protesting against the encroachment of the Turag River, the negative effects on students' education, dust pollution near the university and metro rail area, the narrowness of the Beribadh road, and unplanned sand extraction.

The event was held under the slogan "Breathe Easy, Live Better: Awareness Against Dust Pollution." Students also took part in a cleanliness drive around the campus, reads a press release.

During the human chain, students shared their concerns stating, "Unplanned sand extraction near the campus puts us at health risk. Both students and teachers are experiencing respiratory problems and other health hazards. Sand extractors have been illegally operat-



ing along the Turag River for years and despite many complaints, no action has been taken."

Local hotel owners spoke out saying, "We cannot sell food properly because of all the dust and dirt. These activities are carried out with local influence and the administration has not acted against them. Additionally, multiple trucks during sand extraction cause traffic jams and lead to accidents."

The event was attended by important guests, including Professor

Dr Eaysmin Ara Lekha, vice-chancellor of Uttara University, Professor Dr Gour Gobinda Goswami, pro-VC, and deans of different faculties, department chairs, and respected faculty members.

After the cleanliness campaign, the students participated in a human chain. This event was organised by Uttara University's Social Service Club and Environment Club to promote environmental protection with support from the Uttara University FDT Alumni Association.