

Staff reporter Green activists at a discussion yesterday called for introducing a Saudi Arabia-like modern waste management system to deal with the wastes of sacrificial animals during Eid-ul-Azha, considering the public health, economy and environment. They said millions of animals will be sacrificed during the upcoming Eid-ul-Azha, but the country's environment gets polluted during the festival each year due to the lack of proper waste management of the sacrificial animals. Poribesh Banchao Andolon (Poba), a green voluntary organization, arranged the discussion at its city office. Chaired by Poba chairman Abu Naser Khan, the discussion was addressed, among others, by Poba executive general secretary Engr Abdus Sobhan, secretary Adv Syed Mahbubul Alam, coordinator Atiq Morshed and BCHRD executive director M Mahbub Haque. Dr Lelin Chowdhury presented the keynote paper on the waste management of sacrificial animals at the discussion. Poba chairman Naser Khan said the Eid-ul-Azha is only a few days away and millions of cattle would be slaughtered across the country on the occasion. "Many cities around the world, including Makkah, have selected places where trained people slaughter the sacrificial animals. So, the waste generated from the sacrificial animals could be managed properly that help maintain the environment," he said. Naser Khan said time has come to rethink as to how the wastes of sacrificial animals could be managed to minimise pollution in Dhaka city. He said the authorities should identify the places before the Eid where animal wastes could be dumped so that city corporations can collect the wastes from the dumping points. The Poba chairman said the city corporations, local government bodies and the Islamic Foundation under the Religious Affairs Ministry can play a vital role in managing the wastes of sacrificial animals.