Rights bodies decry climate fund mismanagement

Activists of several rights groups yesterday expressed concern over the mismanagement of two climate funds. They also demanded ensuring inter-ministry coordination and integration of climate adaptation in the upcoming national budget. They expressed the concern at a seminar on budget, climate resilience and adaptation at the National Press Club. EquityBD, a network of right groups, organised the event, says a press release.

Syed Aminul Haque of EquityBD presented the key note paper. He said Bangladesh Climate Change Strategic Action Plan (BCCSAP) was a standalone document. The Sixth Five Year Plan has little integration to the document or climate resilience actions. The UNDP CPER (Climate Change Public Expenditure Review) 2012 has already shown that only 3.8% of the budget allocation has effective correlation to climate change. Aminul also placed five demands in this regard.

Aminur Rasul of Unnayan Dhara raised question on both the trust and resilience fund management and demanded a white paper on management of the two funds. Prodip K Roy of on Line Knowledge Centre pushed for bringing the funds under one single management.

Earlier, the TIB identified mismanagement in the two funds.