



Dhaka Master Plan Planning of 6 more areas by December

By Staff Correspondent
The Detailed Area Planning (DAP) of 6 more areas — an integral part of the Dhaka Master Plan (DMP) — is to be completed by December this year, Rajuk sources said.
With the six areas, Rajuk would complete a total of eight DAP out of 26. Most of the fast growing inner city areas are yet to be put on DAP.
The DAP largely facilitates future planning as well as instant detailed knowledge of an area. Rajuk officials are required to use the DAP before approving a plan in line with the Tk 17 crore DMP.
Although DMP was completed three years ago, DAP has lagged behind due to various complications. It has been alleged that on various occasions Rajuk has violated the DMP and approved plans ignoring recommended land use and zoning compound.
Rajuk sources said three re- See page 11 Col 6

Babu, Matin get fresh bail in Humayun Zahir murder case

By Court Correspondent.
The Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court, Dhaka yesterday granted fresh bail to Akhteruzzaman Chowdhury Babu and Abdul Matin in the sensational Humayun Zahir murder case.
Metropolitan Sessions Judge Sheikh Rezwana Ali also ordered the prosecution to produce all the accused in the case before the court on September 22.
Humayun Zahir, a leading businessman and chairman of United Commercial Bank Ltd. (UCBL), was murdered by a group of miscreants at his Dhanmondi residence on April 8, 1993.
Father-in-law of Humayun Zahir filed a case with Dhanmondi police on the same day accusing seven persons including Babu. Police submitted charge-sheet against the seven persons after investigation.
Of the seven charge-sheeted accused, Babu and Matin appeared before the court yesterday. See page 11 Col 3

House of Ershad Shikdar's elder brother raided: Two arrested

From Staff Correspondent
KHULNA, Sept 15: Rupsha thana police unearthed a big 'hole' at the residence of Ashraf Ali Shikdar, elder brother of Ershad Shikdar.
Police raided the house at Sholpur village under Rupsha thana early this morning and unearthed the eight-foot deep hole in which Ershad and his associates used to conceal their huge illegal firearms.
Police arrested two young men identified as Mokhtar Hossain, 30, and Alam, 24, from there suspecting their involvement in guarding the hole. But police could not recover any arms and ammunition from there.
Meanwhile, police raided the house of Ershad Shikdar at Sonadanga Tuesday afternoon but could not recover any arms. See page 11 Col 6

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Prayer Timings

September 16		
Fajr	Azan	Jamaat
4:30	5:00	
Zohr	12:15	1:20
Asr	4:30	4:45
Maghrib	6:15	6:18
Esha	7:45	8:15

Source: Islamic Foundation



Police beat up a pro-hartal activist at Jatrabari in the city yesterday.

—Star photo

Two severely beaten up Bombs explode during Nasim's speech

By Staff Correspondent

Two powerful bombs exploded near a ruling party public meeting in the city yesterday afternoon minutes after Home Minister Mohammad Nasim began his speech denouncing the three-day hartal.
On the podium were three other ministers and several MPs when the crowd at Paltan Maidan reacted with heavy shouts. Riot police were guarding the meeting venue and the personal securitymen of the four ministers were also present.
Both bombs exploded just outside the boundary of the adjacent Muhammad Ali Boxing Stadium. Police also recovered another live bomb from the same spot.
The home minister stopped speaking for a while but resumed despite the pandemonium in an apparent attempt to restore normalcy in the meeting.

It could not be confirmed whether the bombs were hurled from inside the stadium or from any hidden place. None was however injured in the explosions in a blank space. The blasts prompted a section of the crowd to shout "catch them, catch them" and run towards the boxing stadium at the south-eastern side of the Maidan where the explosions took place at 5.25pm.
Several hundred angry people forced their way into the boxing stadium and ransacked the offices inside. They beat up two young men, suspecting them as bomb throwers, near the stadium gate.
The two — Arif, 25, and Zakir, 40 — were later rescued by police and were rushed to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital. The two, being treated under police custody, were stated to be in critical condition.
Zakir was identified by some people at the spot as a security guard of the nearby National Sports Council. Some people recognised Arif as an unemployed youth from Comilla.
Police questioned three who were present inside the stadium.
Police in riot gear strengthened their vigil as the meeting continued. A small police team also took position near the podium.
An angry Nasim asked his audience not to be panicked and vowed to punish the culprits.
"Terrorists sponsored by Khaleda Zia are trying to disrupt the meeting in public life. They also made bomb attacks in other part of the city. Don't worry, the culprits will be severely dealt with. I know how to take care of them."
"They have held the people hostage for three days in the name of hartal," he said, "they are desperate as people have rejected their programme."
His frequent appeals failed to restore discipline among the audience until he announced that police had caught the culprits and that they would be punished. After about 10 min- See Page 11 Col 7



One of the two victims beaten up by mob after the bomb blast during Awami League rally yesterday. — Star photo

TV exit poll: 55 pc voters want Vajpayee to return as PM

NEW DELHI, Sept 15: India's governing alliance is winning the month-long election so far and 55 per cent of voters want Atal Behari Vajpayee to return as prime minister, according to an exit poll broadcast today on state-run television, reports AP.
Voters, who were questioned as they finished balloting on Sept 5 and 11 in India's five-phase election, indicated that Vajpayee's alliance would win 45 per cent of the votes cast so far. That is a 7 per cent gain over the February 1998 election.
The main opposition Congress Party would collect 39 per cent of the votes, and 38 per cent of those polled said they preferred its leader, Sonia Gandhi as prime minister.
Congress showed a 3 per cent gain from the last election, according to the Development and Research Services poll, which has an error margin of 2 per cent.
Based on the poll results, Doordarshan Television forecast that Vajpayee's Bharatiya Janata Party and its allies would win 145 of the seats so far. Congress would win 105 and other parties 18. Voting has been conducted for more than half of the 543 elected seats in the Lok Sabha, or lower house of Parliament.
The major parties gained at the expense of smaller ones. The poll showed other parties would collect 16 per cent of the votes cast so far for 268 of the 543 elected seats in the Lok Sabha, or lower house of Parliament. That is a loss of 10 per cent for smaller parties since last year.
BJP spokesman, Arun Jaitley said the alliance expects to win a majority in Parliament and cross the 300-seat line. "We think we will cross it," he said on the television broadcast. A solid majority would provide a stable government less likely to fall before its five-year term is complete.
However, a Congress repre-

sentative, Margaret Alva, said the party is doing better than polls show. "The Congress position is improving, Congress is definitely on the upswing," she said.
The poll was conducted as voters finished balloting on Sept 5 and 11.
There are three more phases of voting to come: Sept 18, Sept 25 and Oct. 3. Voting is staggered in the vast country to allow security forces and election workers to move from place to place.
The poll of 18,000 voters in 76 parliamentary constituencies also showed that there was no difference between city dwellers and rural folk as far as choosing a party.
The Supreme Court recently overturned an Election Commission ban on publication or broadcast of exit polls before the election is over.
The votes will be counted Oct. 6 and 7, and a new Parliament is expected to be seated by mid-October.

Hasina arrives in New York

NEW YORK, Sept 15: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina arrived here yesterday afternoon to attend the 54th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), reports BSS.
The Bangladesh leader was received at the John F Kennedy International Airport by Poulou Peter, representative of UN Secretary General Kofi Annan.
Bangladesh Permanent Representative to the United Nations Ambassador Anwarul Karim Chowdhury, Bangladesh Ambassador to the United States K M Shehabuddin, Consul General in New York Kamrul Hasan Sheikh, Minister Press of Bangladesh Mission in Washington Shahajahan Mian and other high officials of Bangladesh Embassy were present at the airport to receive the prime minister.
The prime minister will address the UNGA on September 20. She will attend a reception to arranged on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of Bangladesh's admission to the United Nations. She will also hold meeting with UN Secretary General Kofi Annan and UNGA President Dr. Theo-Ben Gurirab.
Sheikh Hasina will address the plenary of the investors' meeting on September 16. Before returning home, the prime minister will visit Paris, where she will receive UNESCO Peace Prize.

Several Bangladesh ambassadors and high commissioners who were appointed on contract are being called back, according to diplomatic sources.
The sources also said the government has decided not to "encourage anymore" overseas postings on contract basis or give extensions to diplomats who are due for retirement.
Until recently, several top ranking diplomats were given generous extensions, a move that sparked widespread resentment among career foreign service officials who felt that extensions would damage their chances of being promoted to higher posts or even appointed as envoy.
Two diplomats who have been called back last week are Bangladesh High Commissioner to Malaysia Wajed Ali Khan Panni and Ambassador to Nepal Mohiuddin Ahmed. Panni is a ruling Awami League member while Ahmed is a retired additional foreign secretary. Both were appointed en-

voys under a three-year contract. Panni has been asked to return by October 14 while Ahmed by November 18.
Ahmed's tenure is almost complete while that of Panni is due to end next year.
Sources also said that High Commissioner to Pakistan Masum Ahmed Chowdhury will be called back shortly as he is due to retire from service soon. Khairul Anam, Ambassador to Belgium and the EU, and Abdul Momin Chowdhury, Ambassador to Saudi Arabia will also be asked to come back home as their contract expires shortly. Sarwar Osman Chowdhury, Ambassador to UAE and a political appointee, will also be asked to return after the expiry of his contract.
The decision to recall the Bangladesh High Commissioner to Malaysia was taken after Panni wrote a letter to relevant quarters asking for permission to marry a Pakistani woman. Government rules prohibit such marriages. See page 11 Col 6

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BNP calls hartal at Gurudashpur today

From Our Correspondent
RAJSHAHI, Sept 15: BNP has called a day-long hartal at Gurudashpur thana headquarters tomorrow protesting the killing of Jubo Dal leader Mobidul Islam.
Mobidul Islam, convener of Jatiyatadabi Jubo Dal Gurudashpur thana unit, was hacked to death during hartal hours on Monday.
A case was filed yesterday with Gurudashpur thana accusing 18 people, including Gurudashpur Poursava chairman Amjad Hossain and Awami League thana unit leaders Sarker Imdadul Haq and Mohammad Ali.
Rajshahi City Corporation Mayor and BNP central committee leader Mizanur Rahman Minu in a statement yesterday demanded immediate arrest of the killers of Mobidul Islam.

50 more hurt on last day of shutdown

By Staff Correspondent

The end of a 60-hour marathon hartal at six last evening brought public life back to normal after scores of incidents of clashes that left one person killed and more than 200 people hurt across the country.
The general strike was called by a coalition of opposition parties led by the BNP after the violence during their sit-in demonstration on Sunday. The parties said they were protesting police behaviour on Sunday plan to allow transportation for Indian goods and pressing for resignation of the government.
In the capital, under the watchful eyes of riot police at every intersection and other securitymen on patrol, the last day of the shutdown saw more rickshaws appearing on the city streets, more commuter buses including the state-run ones and a limited number of autorickshaws and tempos.
Pickets were virtually missing on the streets while shops and businesses were closed despite police protection offered by the home minister.

The opposition campaign was marked by incidents of violence and police curtailing citizens' rights to free movement in the city.
In the capital, Jatrabari and Dholaikhal areas were the main trouble spots of the day. For the second day yesterday, BNP MPs marched through the city streets without their activists, well kept away by police.
The eight MPs who staged demonstrations on Tuesday were re-arrested yesterday. Some 26 moved up and down the length of Bijoynagar-Purana Paltan crossing. They held a rally at Bijoynagar under the watchful eyes of three Deputy Commissioners of Police and hundreds of policemen who guarded rooftops, lanes and by-lanes.
At least 50 people were injured in clashes involving pro and anti-hartal activists and police yesterday while 86 pickets were arrested, 45 from Motijheel area alone, in the city. The alliance will hold *gayehana janaza* after Jumma prayer at Baitul Mukarram National Mosque and bring out separate mourning processions.
"Our current agitation has turned into one-point oust-gov- See page 11 Col 3

Envoys appointed on contract basis being called back

By M Anwarul Haq

Several Bangladesh ambassadors and high commissioners who were appointed on contract are being called back, according to diplomatic sources.
The sources also said the government has decided not to "encourage anymore" overseas postings on contract basis or give extensions to diplomats who are due for retirement.
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The decision to recall the Bangladesh High Commissioner to Malaysia was taken after Panni wrote a letter to relevant quarters asking for permission to marry a Pakistani woman. Government rules prohibit such marriages. See page 11 Col 6

Shibir units at DU: Forged seals of provost recovered

By DU Correspondent.

Five forged seals of the provost of Bangladesh University were held by the Dhaka University yesterday. The seals were recovered from a room of the hall yesterday.
The seal of the provost is used for allotment of seats.
Some Chhatra League activists at the hall led by Talukder Ahsanul Kabir Polash also recovered some papers containing the names of members of a 41-member Islami Chhatra Shibir unit at the hall, party attendance book, money receipt and other documents from room no. 506, belonging to one Taher.
The recovered materials were handed over to the provost of the hall.

Some alleged ICS activists, who are resident students of the hall, were held by the Chhatra League activists but were later released when the hall authorities intervened.
See page 11 Col 5

Opposition's mourning procession Friday

By Staff Correspondent
The BNP-led opposition alliance will bring out mourning processions on Friday and stage demonstrations and hold rallies on September 22 across the country to protest the killing of a Jubo Dal leader in Natore and government's "atrocities" during the three-day hartal.
Mofidul Islam, Convener of Gurudashpur thana unit of Jubo Dal, was hacked to death allegedly by ruling party activists who attacked BNP pickets on the first day of the hartal.
The programme was announced by BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan at the official residence of the Leader of the Opposition in parliament after a meeting of the liaison committee of the four-party alliance. Jatiya Party leader Kazi Zafar Ahmed, Jamaat-e-Islami leader Kamaruzzaman and JJO leader Fazul Haq Amin also addressed the press briefing.
In the city, the alliance will hold *gayehana janaza* after Jumma prayer at Baitul Mukarram National Mosque and bring out separate mourning processions.
"Our current agitation has turned into one-point oust-gov- See Page 12 Col 8

Turn one-point movement into mass upsurge, says Khaleda

Rejecting the prime minister's offer for dialogue, Opposition leader Khaleda Zia urged people to turn the ongoing one-point movement into a mass upsurge to topple this government, reports UNB.
"The prime minister's assertions for democracy and dialogue sound like a joke," she said in a statement, congratulating the countrymen for observing the three-day marathon hartal that ended at 6 pm yesterday.
The BNP-led opposition alliance enforced the shutdown to protest attacks on its sit-in demonstrations in front of Secretariat on September 12 demanding cancellation of the See page 11 Col 6

JS body for removal of anomalies in pay, promotion in different cadres

A meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Establishment Ministry yesterday recommended removal of anomalies in pay and promotion in different cadres, reports UNB.
It emphasised the need for formulating transparent service rules and appointment of deputy secretaries and higher officials on the basis of merit.
The representatives of BCS (Ansar) Association spoke about their service-related demands at the meeting. The committee members assured necessary measures after reviewing their demands.
Chaired by committee chairman Khondakar Asaduzzaman, the meeting was attended by committee members Prof Dr M S Akbar and Ahsan Ahmad attended the meeting. Advocate Rahmat Ali was present as a representative of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Retrial by 'mistake'!

By Nurul Kabir

General Ershad was ousted from power nine years ago, but many of the political activists are putting his ouster before yet to get rid of charges 'framed' during his rule.
Meantime, a few 'victims' in the city who got rid of certain charges have now been exposed to fresh harassment as an already disposed of case has been put to trial again because of a 'mistake' made by the General Records section of the Dhaka CMM court.
Nurul Islam, a young businessman now, and some of his acquaintances in the city heaved a sigh of relief when a special tribunal disposed of a case some eight years after it was filed against them in 1989 under the Explosives Act.
They were anxiously waiting for disposal of another case filed at the same time. Meantime a couple of years have gone by.
But they suddenly came to know that the already disposed of case was put to trial again, and warrants of arrest were is-

sued against the 'accused' as the General Records section of the Dhaka Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's court forwarded it to another tribunal by 'mistake'.
In late eighties, thousands of youths joined the movement against the military regime of General Ershad. A dedicated activist of a left leaning party those days, Nurul Islam was not an exception.
As usual, he was picked up by police from a public rally and beaten up. In an unusual move, Nurul Islam lodged a case against Sabujbag police. The case is still pending with the High Court.
A few days later, the then opposition parties fighting Ershad regime called a general strike on November 11, 1989.
Police did not fail to take advantage of the political situation. They filed a case against Nurul Islam and some of his acquaintances under sections 143 and 326 of Bangladesh Penal Code and sections 3 and See Page 11 Col 7

আজ শুভ উদ্বোধন

দেশ ও জনগণের অর্থনৈতিক উন্নয়নে আমাদের সেবা গ্রহণ করুন

সারাদেশে ২৪ টি শাখা জনগণের সেবায় নিয়োজিত

বাংলাদেশ কর্মসংস্থান ব্যাংক লিমিটেড

(জনস্বার্থে প্রতিষ্ঠিত জনগণের ব্যাংক)

প্রধান কার্যালয়

তরঙ্গ কমপ্লেক্স, ১৯ রাজউক এডিনিউ, ঢাকা-১০০০

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