

Many link roads still in bad condition

CITY CORRESPONDENT

Although the main roads of the capital often go through expensive repair jobs, the link roads are usually neglected.

Some of these link roads received facelifts last year but within six months, they have been dug up again by different utility service agencies like WASA, DESA, TNT etc.

According to Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) records, the capital's total road area is about 2,300-km. Among them, 200-km are main thoroughfares, 110-km secondary roads and 152-km feeder roads. The rest are narrow lanes and bylanes.

At present, different government bodies are working at a number of important points of the city, which is bringing a lot of suffering to the residents and commuters.

In Nakhlapara, the stretch from the Prime Minister's office to Nabisco roundabout has been mercilessly dug up which has made the road cramped resulting in traffic jams.

Link roads at Mirpur, Kazipara and Monipur have also become virtually unusable due to indiscriminate digging. Two roads in those the areas were repaired just months ago but have been opened up again.

"A few of these roads have been repaired but most of the streets are in really bad condition. It is very hard for the aged, women and children to move along these roads," said Nazrul Islam, a Kazipara resident.

The roads from Dhaka Medical College to Dakeshwari Temple and Palashi to Lalbagh are always water logged because of installation of telephone cables, water and gas lines under these link roads. Local people shudder to think what the situation will be like when monsoon comes.

The road from Shat Rasta to Karwan Bazar rail crossing through the Tejgaon truck stand hasn't seen repair in ages. Link roads in Motijheel and Dilkusha commercial area and some lanes at Nayatola are also facing the same problem.

Residents of Jatrabari have been blaming the development work on Shaheed Feroq Road for their sufferings in movement for a long time.



SYED ZAKIR HOSSAIN



AKM. MOHSIN

Digging continues for months at Hazaribagh, top, and condition of a by-lane near Aliya Madrassah

Master plan for waste management by Dec

AVIK SANWAR RAHMAN

The Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) has taken a one-year project to design an advanced master plan for solid waste management.

The waste control plan will be designed in a scientific and health-oriented manner and will cover waste disposal up to the year 2015.

The master plan is being implemented by the Japan International Co-operation Agency (JICA) and is expected to be completed by December 2004.

The DCC and JICA signed the contract of the project on July 16 last year. On December 14, JICA submitted a report on the amount of solid waste generated by the inhabitants of the city which suggested that about five thousand tons of solid waste is produced everyday on an average.

The JICA report predicted that the yearly waste volume will reach 11 lakh tons by 2015 as the population of Dhaka city, which is nearly one crore at the moment, might reach 2 crore by then.

The project would also look into the possibility of utilising the solid waste to the residents, benefit with recycling and power generating. Besides, identifying the problems of solid waste management currently faced by the DCC is another main assignment of the project. Once these things are sorted out, JICA will then start designing the solution.

The project's main area of focus will be domestic waste management. "This will include raising awareness among the residents and especially among the women as they are the ones who generally deal with domestic



SYED ZAKIR HOSSAIN

waste," said an official of JICA.

Industrial and medical waste management problems will also be touched but they won't involve solution procedures, as more time and money is needed

for that.

The DCC is hopeful that Japan might step in to fund this project as the master plan initiated by JICA is based on an understanding with the Japanese government.

The project would be implemented on the 360 sq. kilometre area within the jurisdiction of DCC. There will be on the job training for the staff and technology would be transferred to the DCC.

Wasa bill books for consumers soon

CITY CORRESPONDENT

The Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (Wasa) is likely to issue bill books to consumers from next month.

From February meter readers will visit holdings every month and prepare bill in the presence of the consumers'. Every consumer will retain the five-year bill book which will be provided to him. The meter reader, on his monthly rounds will check the meter, prepare the bill and sign it, Wasa sources said.

The water supply authorities currently have about 2.15 lakh

consumers under eight zones in the city.

Among the eight zones, three have been leased out to Dhaka Wasa Consumer Goods Suppliers' Association.

Under the present system, meter readers of the leased out zones issue computerised bills every month. On the other hand, manual bills are distributed in four zones and computerised bills in another zone every two months.

"The new system is being introduced to stop consumer harassment and false billing. This will also help reduce sys-

tem loss with a steady increase in revenue earnings," said a top Wasa official.

According to the new system, Wasa revenue officials will visit holdings in different areas every month to see for themselves whether the bills were done 'properly' by the meter readers. They will also sign the bill books after checking.

The chief and deputy chief revenue officers of the Wasa will also join the monthly drive, sources said, adding that all these steps are aimed at "ensuring correct meter reading and preventing consumer harassment."

The meter readers and officials will be provided with identity cards embedded with a photograph of the person concerned, an official of the Wasa-leased agency said.

He said that over 60,000 holdings, most of them in old Dhaka, still do not have meters.

They will get bill books immediately after installation of meters. The agency has already procured 12,000 meters and they will be installed within the next three months, he assured.

All consumers in the city will have meters by the end of this year, Wasa sources informed.

useful telephone numbers

COURIER SERVICES

International
Air Borne Express- 9561371, 9561372, 9550724
Air Couriers Int'l (BD) Ltd.- 8815970
Aramex International Courier- 9558003, 9559582, 9565075
Airspeed Express- 9563494
Asian Courier Services Ltd.- 8313543
Baishakhi Courier Service- 9558606
Bangladesh Express Co. Ltd.- 9565114
Bangladesh Courier Service- 9563989
Bengal Express- 9560642, 9552666
Bangladesh Int'l Courier- 953636
Continental Service Ltd.- 9552948, 9558425
DHL Worldwide Express- 9881703-7, 9886305-9, 9882057
Enem Express- 9330699
Fedex Bangladesh Express Co. Ltd.- 9565114
Modhuban Courier Service-

9550884
Overseas Courier Service- 9352431, 8321169
Pacific Courier- 9568446
Reliance Express Service- 9558515, 7110249
Sky International Service- 9660442
Skynet world Wide Express- 9558062, 9560258, 7114787, 7113184
TNT Express- 9566662, 9558239, 8618155
Union Courier Service- 9341722
United Parcel Service Air alliance Ltd.- 8826429, 8810223

National
Asian courier Service Ltd.- 8313543
BAE- 9884851
Central Courier Service- 9881118
Confidence Courier Service Ltd. 9567036
Chisty Courier- 7110177-9,
Cosmopol Services- 9552793, 9557975
Dhaka Courier Services- 7236222

Dolphin Courier- 9558802
Dreamland Courier Service- 9352431, 8321169
Pioneer Courier Services- 9561727, 9569759
Probashi Courier Services- 9346359
Rainbow Express Parcel Services Ltd.- 8322773, 8315703
Reliance Express Services- 9558515, 7110249
Sundarban Courier Services- 9551984, 9556189, 9551656
Sunrise Courier Services- 9568751
World Runner Express Ltd. 9112068, Fax - 880-2-9112068

TIPS

Do you know according to Dhaka City Corporation, you must deposit your waste at the collection site between 4pm and 10pm

LIBRARY & INFO-

Libraries, Cultural and Information Centers
Central Public Library- 8626001-4,
Shishu Academy- 9564128
Shilpakala Academy- 8614673
Bangla Academy- 8619550
Islamic Foundation- 9550280, 9556407
Nazrul Institute- 9114602
Ford Foundation- 8116133
Alliance Francaise- 8611557
British Council- 8618867-8, 8618905-7
Community Development Library- 8113769, 8113604
Goethe Institute Int'l- Dhaka- 9126525-6
Indian Information Centre & Cultural Library- 8615096
The Russian Cultural Centre- 9116314, 9118531, 9118314
Drik Photo Gallery- 9120125, 8112954, 8123412

OUTING

Museum and Zoo
National Museum- 8619396-9
Open: 10 am 5 pm, Friday 3 pm- 8 pm, Thursday closed
Muktijuddha Jadughar- 9559091
Open: 10:30 am 6:30 pm,
Sunday Closed
Bangabandhu Smiti Jadughar- 8110046
Open: 10 am 5 pm, Wednesday closed
Ahsan Manzil
Open: 10 am 5 pm, Friday: 3 pm - 7 pm, Thursday Closed
Shishu Jadughar- 9666466
Open: 10 am- 6 pm, Sunday Closed

CITY BUS ROUTE

Bus No.	Route	Starts from
1	Gulistan-Shahbagh-Banglamotor-Farmgate-Mirpur 10, 11, 12	Golap Shah Mazar
2	Gulistan-Shahbagh-Banglamotor-Farmgate-Mirpur 1, 2	Phoolbaria bus station
3	Gulistan-Shahbagh-Farmgate-Mahakhali-Airport-Azampur	Phoolbaria bus station
4	Shyampur-Motijheel-Shahbagh-Farmgate-Airport-Tongi	Shyampur
5	Sayedabad-Kamalapur-Motijheel-Airport-Joydebpur-Gazipur	Sayedabad
6 A	Kamalapur-Motijheel-Gulistan-Shahbagh-Farmgate-Gulistan 1, 2	Kamalapur
6 B	Kamalapur-Motijheel-Gulistan-Maghbazar-Nabisco-Gulshan 1, 2	Kamalapur
6 C	Motijheel Shapla chattr- Malibagh- Farmgate- Gulshan 2	Motijheel Shaplachattr
7	Sadarghat-Gulistan-Maghbazar-Nabisco-Gulshan 2	Sadarghat
8	Chittagong-Motijheel-Shahbagh-Farmgate-Asad Gate-Kalyanpur-Gabtoi	Chittagong Road
9	Demra Rani mahal-Motijheel-Kalbagan-Shyamoli-Mirpur 1, 10, 11, 12	Demra Ranimahai
10	Sadarghat-Gulistan-Kakrail-Malibagh-Rampura-Biwa Road-Tongi Bridge	Sadarghat
11	Sayedabad-Motijheel-Fakirapool-Maghbazar-Mohakhali-Tongi Bridge	Sayedabad
11/A	Sayedabad-Khilgoan-Malibagh-Rampura-Airport-Tongi Bridge	Syedabad
12	Shanir Akhra-Shahbagh-Farmgate-Asadgate-Mohammadpur	Shanir Akhra
13	Motijheel-Shahbagh-New Market-Jhigatola-Shangkar-Mohammedpur	Motijheel
14	Signboard - Motijheel-Shahbagh-New Market-Shyamoli-Mirpur 1, 12	Signboard (Chittagong Road)
15	Chittagong Road-Motijheel-Shahbagh-Farmgate-Mirpur 12	Chittagong Road
24	Gulistan-Maghbazar-Mohakhali-Airport-Uttara-Bipile	Gulistan