



GUIDE HOUSE AUDITORIUM AT BAILEY ROAD

Flaws in project concept delay renovation work

CITY CORRESPONDENT

Renovation of the Guide House Auditorium is being delayed because of irregularities in preparing the project concept paper (PCP).

"The PCP was returned to the Guide House authority as it wasn't prepared according to procedure," said Golam Ali Molla, chief planner of the Education Ministry.

The Guide House authorities submitted the PCP for work on its much-talked about auditorium to the ministry for fund approval. But the document was returned to the Guide House authority by the planning division of the Education Ministry, who expressed reservations about it.

"We submitted the PCP to ministry but it was sent back to us only last week. So, we will hold discussions with relevant ministry officials about which sections need to be adjusted or clarified," said Rawshan Ara, general secretary of Guide House.

In the meantime, some group theatre activists are growing sceptical at the sluggish pace of the auditorium's redevelopment.

"We don't know why work hasn't started yet. We also sought a face-to-face meeting with the authority but they have not responded to our requests," said Liaquat Ali Lucky, general secretary of the Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation.

But a Guide House official said that they had discussed the

auditorium's design with the theatre activists more than six months ago, thus the question of holding further talks on the issue did not arise.

Some quarters have even alleged that the officials are more interested in building a market at Guide House at Bailey Road instead of paying attention to its auditorium, which has been closed since November 2002.

Asked if there was any truth in the matter, Rawshan Ara dismissed the charges.

"The auditorium has been used to earn quite a great deal of income for the Guide House. In our effort to improve its design and offer better facilities, we have asked BUET architects to draw up plans and also invited bids from construction firms, so there is no

question of building a market," commented the Guide House general secretary.

The Guide House was established in 1964 to popularise the country's Girl Guides movement. And the auditorium was built in 1982 as a means of generating income for the movement.

Over the years the Guide House has entertained millions of drama enthusiasts. Along with the Mohila Samity, the Guide House auditorium has helped to launch the careers of many drama activists.

The fate of Guide House Auditorium now rests with the committee formed by Education Ministry.

Education board's quick service

Original certificates to be given along with mark sheets within two months of results

KAUSAR ISLAM AYON

The government has decided to award the original certificates of Secondary School Certificate (SSC) and Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) along with mark sheets within two months of the publication of the results, effective from this year.

Up to 2003, educational boards provided original certificates three to four years after the results were published. Although a complicated and time-consuming process, provisional certificates were provided in necessary cases

within that period.

Professor Shaheda Obaed, chairman of the Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education, Dhaka (BISED), hoped that the students will get rid of hassle of getting their original certificates and it will be helpful for their higher education at home and abroad.

Vaskor Bhadury, an HSC examinee of Notre Dame College, marked it as a revolutionary decision. "If we really get our certificates within this short timeframe it will be helpful for our further studies, especially for those who want to

go abroad," he explained.

The authorities are now preparing to go ahead with this new scheme and will be able to do so without a revised budget.

"It will be possible to hand over the certificates without increasing the budget; yet officials need to do extra work to make it possible," Prof Obaed said.

The authority will cross-check the results through computerised system before publication to avoid any errors.

"We have modernised the scrutiny system to avoid corruption and errors in results,"

said BISED Controller Professor Shah Muhammad Farhad.

This year the authorities hope to publish results on a website. "We are looking into the possibilities of publishing results on a website along with common mediums," he said, adding the authorities plan to hand over all pending certificates from 2000 to 2003 by the year-end.

"We are thinking of a crash programme as we want to make this process up to date as quickly as possible," he said.

Crackdown on beggars and vagabonds

FAIZUL A TANIM

Police all over the city have allegedly arrested many beggars and homeless people as part of a crackdown against vagabonds.

"We are rounded up so that foreign delegates don't see beggars on the streets of Dhaka," complained Selim Mia standing in front of the High Court.

"Most of us are caught during political meetings and rallies while the real culprits are allowed to get away," said

a tramp.

Police however said the vagrants were creating a public nuisance.

"Not only do they pester residents for money but are also involved in anti-social activities," observed a policeman.

Second officer of Ramna Thana Rezaul Hossain told Star City that, most of these vagabonds are caught from VIP Road and transferred to the Mirpur-based vagrant centre.

SI Golam Mowla of Tejaon Police Station said: "So far, we have caught 14 beggars as part of the drive starting from May 5."

However, Lalbagh Thana's Sub Inspector Qaiyum offered a different explanation.

"There is no such crackdown on beggars going on. It's just part of our routine duty to stop those indulging in nuisance at any time of the day."

Under the 1943 Vagrancy Act, there should be a separate advisory board for the beggars which will advise the government on their rehabilitation. Law-enforcing agencies are required to prepare an initial report so that the concerned authority can take it to the magistrates for examination.

Wahida Banu, director programmes of Aparajeyo-Bangladesh, a local non-government organisation, revealed they were trying to get the street children released.

"Our field workers from the vagrant centres notify us as soon as an arrest takes place. Then with the help of our lawyers, we try to secure release of the kids."

"We provide them food, education, clothing and counselling once the kids are in our care," she added.



useful telephonenumber numbers

OURIER 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- 9550326, 9566975
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

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-Gulshan 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-Gabtolli	Chittagong Road
9	Demra Rani mahal-Motijheel-Kalbagan-Shyamoli-Mirpur 1, 10, 11, 12	Demra Ranimahal
10	Sadarghat-Gulistan-Kakrail-Malibagh-Rampura-Biswa 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