

# DU Nazrul Complex plan shelved for 5 years

KAUSAR ISLAM AYON

The foundation stone of Dhaka University's Nazrul Complex was laid five years ago but nothing else has been done to set up the complex.

It was former prime minister Sheikh Hasina who laid the foundation stone on May 25, 1999 at the graveyard compound of national poet Kazi Nazrul Islam, which is beside the University's Central Mosque.

Although authorities approved architect Mazharul Islam's design and estimated a budget of Taka two crore, it was sanctioned without any allotment from the government or proper guidelines about how funds would be obtained.

The university, through the media, tried to collect necessary funds by urging the public to donate. But the project has been faced with uncertainty since the DU authorities failed to draw the

**Vice-Chancellor Prof SMA Faiz said the DU was firm to start construction of the Nazrul Complex next year. He urged the affluent people to make donations for it**

public's attention to their noble endeavour.

Recently DU Vice-Chancellor Prof SMA Faiz said that they were determined to start construction next year.

"I have directed the persons concerned to take necessary steps to get allotment for the project from all possible sources and I will be personally monitoring the project from now on."

He also called upon affluent members of society to make donations as the university would be unable to bear such an expensive scheme by itself.

"We have approached the University Grants Commission for help but we are hoping that people come forward too," he added.

Sources believe that funding for the project has been difficult

because the university did not maintain any file or paper work. Also the scheme was not placed on the ADP (Annual Development Programme) list.

The treasurer of the university Syed Rashidul Hassan agreed.

"The complex is not enlisted in the ADP and there has been a lack of coordination between the authorities concerned. So that is why we failed to get the special allotment."

"We are now to enlist the project on the ADP as soon as possible."

Chief engineer of the university Amir Hossain informed that they have submitted all the necessary papers to the government but to get any response yet.

In the meantime, the area has become a hangout for drug addicts and anti-social behaviour. The university authority has decided to construct a boundary around the mosque to put a stop to it.



The proposed site for the Nazrul complex at Dhaka University.

# Vegetables pricey despite sufficient supply

CITY CORRESPONDENT

Prices of vegetables have soared in the last one week despite sufficient supply in the city's kitchen markets.

Besides, sugar, lentil (masur dal), cumin, turmeric, dry chilli, onion, garlic and plan rice registered fresh rise.

Soyabean oil remained steady at its

exorbitant price while fish, except far *hilsha*, became further dearer.

During a visit to the kitchen markets at Karwan Bazar, Hatirpool, New Market and Shantinagar yesterday this correspondent found that ginger was still selling at Tk 80-90 kilogram.

At Karwan Bazar yesterday, aubergines were selling at Tk 16-22, up from last week's Tk 12-18 a kilogram. *Korola* rose by Tk 4 and was selling at

Tk 16, *kakrol* Tk 16 from its previous price of Tk 14 while tomato became dearer by Tk 4 and was selling at Tk 24. Green chilli, which was Tk 20 for the whole month of May, suddenly rose by Tk 10 in the first week of this month. It became dearer by another Tk 10 last week and was selling at Tk 40 a kilogram yesterday. Prices of *chichinga* and lady's finger also rose by Tk 2-4. Besides, cucumber sells at Tk 16, *patol* Tk 12-14, beans Tk 16-18,

papaya Tk 12 and gourd between Tk 15 and 20 a piece.

Vegetable vendors could not give any satisfactory reason for the price hike.

"Prices of greens and vegetables generally go up in the mid-rainy season as supply from rural areas starts falling," said Mohammad Ali of Karwan Bazar wholesale market.

"We are still getting sufficient supply" he said and blamed the retailers for the price hike.

A recent survey by the Consumers Association of Bangladesh (CAB) backs his claim. The survey showed that the price difference between the city's vegetable wholesalers and retailers is around 90 percent. Wholesalers who bring vegetables from the nearest district of Narasingdi also sell them at 67 percent higher prices in Dhaka, it said.

Sugar price went up from Tk 30 to Tk 32, lentil from Tk 44 to Tk 46, local onion from Tk 18 to Tk 20, garlic (local) from Tk 36 to Tk 40, dry chilli from Tk 80 to Tk 90, turmeric from Tk 70 to Tk 75, cumin from Tk 120 to Tk 135 and pilau rice from Tk 34 to Tk 36-37.

Despite new harvest, prices of different varieties of rice did not mark any significant fall. *Pajam* was still selling at Tk 15-16 a kilogram, *narishail* at Tk 18-19 and *miniket* at Tk 20-21.

Most fish remained beyond reach of the middle and low-income groups.

However, supply of delicious *hilsha* increased in the last 7-10 days and were selling at 'reasonable' prices. A pair of mid-size *hilsha* now sells at Tk 300-350 which was between Tk 500 and 700 only 2-3 weeks ago.



Prices of vegetables have soared in the last one week despite sufficient supply in the city's kitchen markets.

# Cambridge launches GCE O Level Bangladesh Studies

CITY CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Studies will be introduced as a new subject for GCE O Level students under the University of Cambridge International Examination (CIE) representatives of the British Council and CIE revealed during a press briefing on Monday.

The new subject will provide English medium students an understanding of Bangladesh history, culture, environment and development issues.

Mark Bartholomew, teaching executive and country exams manager; Raiqan Ripa Walie, education promotion and marketing manager from British Council and Helen Imam, product manager, CIE addressed the briefing at the British Council auditorium.

At the moment only two schools -- Green Herald in Dhaka and Chittagong Grammar School -- are following the Cambridge syllabus. With the first examinations to be held in May/June 2006, more educational institutions intend to teach the subject from August 2004.

The syllabus has been jointly developed by CIE and English medium school teachers. They were consulted and their comments on the outline of the

syllabus were discussed in several seminars. Finally, consultants back in the UK, who produced the final syllabus, specimen question papers and marking schemes, compiled the

**The new subject will provide English medium students an understanding of Bangladesh history, culture, environment and development issues.**

results of these seminars. The aim of the syllabus is to cumulate local resources to textbooks of the national curriculum and produce English

translations of them. Local teachers will be able to share ideas by making use of CIE's teachers' email discussion group.

Bartholomew said that Cambridge Examination currently has less than five per cent of the total O Level market in Dhaka as they began operations in the country just four years ago.

"Books on the subject will be published in the country. Besides, an equivalency system with the SSC and HSC grading standards as opposed to O/A Levels will be developed due to the existing problems faced by English-medium students seeking entry to universities in Bangladesh."

To mark the occasion he said that some special incentives would be on offer.

"There will be an English essay competition for both Bengali and English medium students aged 15-18. The winner gets a chance to spend a 10-day trip to London, Brighton and Cambridge," he added.

Helen Imam also indicated that to motivate students there would be attractive cash prizes.

"There is a prize worth 250 pounds for the best candidate in O Level Bangladesh Studies each year and 500 pounds for the best overall Cambridge O Level candidate."

## healthouting, taxicab & train timing

### HEALTH

- Hospitals**  
**Heart**  
 National Institute of Cardio Vascular Diseases (NICVD), - 9130800, 9122560-59
- Burn**  
 Dhaka Medical College Hospital  
 Burn Unit-8626812-6
- Cancer**  
 National Cancer Institute-8014914, 8826561-65  
 Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University-8612550-4, 861455-9
- Diabetes**  
 Diabetic Research Hospital (BIRDEM)- 9661551-5, 8616641-50
- Mother & Child Care**  
 Shishu Hospital- 9119119, 8116061-62  
 Azimpur Mother & Child Health

- Training Institute- 8624827, 8624980
- Eye**  
 Islamia Eye Hospital-9110794, 9119315  
 National Eye Hospital- 8117202, 8114807
- Dental**  
 Dental College -9002035
- Orthopaedics**  
 National Orthopaedics (Pangu) Hospital- 9114075, 9112150
- General**  
 Dhaka Medical College Hospital- 8626812-6  
 Rushmono General Hospital- 8317819  
 Holy Family Hospital- 8311731-25  
 Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University Hospital- 8612550-4, 8614545-9  
 Bangladesh Medical College & Hospital- 8115443, 9118202,

- Shamaria Hospital-** 9131901  
**Suhrawardy Hospital --** 9130800, 9122560-69  
**Salimullah Medical College Hospital --** 7310061-4, 7319002-6  
**Cholera Research Hospital (ICDDR)**- 8811751-60  
**Monowra Hospital** 8319802, 8318135
- Blood Bank**  
 Red Crescent Centre- 9116563  
 Sandhani (DMCH)- 8624040  
 Sandhani (SMCH)- 7310061, 7310061, 7319022  
 Dhaka Medical College Hospital- 8626812-9
- Eye Bank**  
 Sandhani International Eye Bank- 8614040
- Ambulances For Dead Body**  
 Anzuman Mafidul Islam (Kakrail) 9336611, Gandaria 7319808, 7318166,  
 Al-Markajul Islam 9127867,

### MARKET CLOSED

- Gulshan 1, 2 markets-Friday  
 Elephant Road-Friday  
 Bishal Center-Friday  
 Baitual Mukarram Market-Friday  
 Polwell Market-Friday  
 BCS Computer City-Friday  
 Isha Khan Shopping Complex-Friday.  
 Rajlaxmi Complex-Friday  
 Stadium Market-Friday  
 Bangabazar Market-Friday  
 National Museum-Thursdays  
 Ahsan Manzil--Thursdays.  
 New Market-Tuesday  
 Gausia Market-Tuesday  
 Mouchak Market-Sunday  
 Dhanmondi Hawkers Market-Tuesday  
 Dhanmondi Hawkers Market-Tuesday  
 Eastern Plaza-Sunday  
 Farmview Super Market-Sunday  
 Muktiuddha Jadughar-Sunday  
 Dhaka Zoo-Sunday  
 Shishu Jadughar-Sunday

### TAXI CAB

- Yellow Cab**  
 Navana 9558065  
 Salida 9344477, 0171620881  
 Cosmo 9112959 and 8127191  
 Cab One 7113282-3  
 Nihon 8624741-2  
 Orion 9347277  
 Anudip 8125285 and 8127611  
 Capital 9352847
- Union 8130485**  
 Kool 0171826731
- Black Cab**  
 Cab Ex 9358401  
 Cabline 8321162  
 JBS Cab 019364575  
 Sajjan 018126036  
 Anudip -- 8125285 and 8127611

### TRAIN TIMING

- Subarna Express** Leaves Dhaka at 4:00 pm  
**Mahanagar Prabhati** Leaves Dhaka at 7:30 am  
**Mahanagar Godhuli** Leaves Dhaka at 3:05 pm  
**Turna** Leaves Dhaka at 11:00 pm  
**Parabat Express** Leaves Dhaka at 6:30 am  
**Joyantika Express** Leaves Dhaka at 12:30 pm  
**Upaban Express** Leaves Dhaka at 9:30 pm  
**Tista Express** Leaves Dhaka at 7:00 am  
**Ekata Express** Leaves Dhaka at 5:00 pm  
**Upakul Express** Leaves Dhaka at 6:00 am  
**Padma Express** Leaves Dhaka at 9:20 pm
- Reaches Chittagong at 10:15 pm  
 Reaches Chittagong at 2:55 pm  
 Reaches Chittagong at 9:11 pm  
 Reaches Chittagong at 7:05 am  
 Reaches Sylhet at 2:30 pm  
 Reaches Sylhet at 9:20 pm  
 Reaches Sylhet at 6:40 am  
 Reaches Bahadurabad at 1:05 pm  
 Reaches Bahadurabad at 11:55  
 Reaches Noakhali at 1:35 pm  
 Reaches Jagannath at 2:30 pm

### 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