

Tk 6.15 cr project to check unplanned growth of port city

ABDULLAH AL MAHMUD

Chittagong Development Authority (CDA) has taken up a project worth Tk 6.15 crore to check unplanned growth of the port city.

The Detailed Area Plan (DAP) to be prepared for over an area of 1,01,217 acres of land, aims at making recommendations of Structure Plan (SP) and Urban Development Plan (UDP) of Chittagong Metropolitan Master Plan (CMMP) effective and operational, CDA sources said. The CMMP was prepared in 1995.

Ministry of finance and planning has already approved the project. Of the total amount, Tk 5, 50,52,000 will come as grant from the government and Tk 64,54,000

from the CDA fund.

Implementation period of the project was 3 years scheduled to start in July last year. But, the project is now likely to be completed by the middle of 2007 if it starts this July.

DAP will provide detailed information about the development pattern showing location of roads, infrastructures, community facilities and other land uses after a detailed analysis of the areas identified in the SP and UDP.

Initially CDA proposed a DAP on 25,000 acres of land. Later, considering overall city growth and demands of the fast growing urban centre, planning commission advised CDA to take necessary steps to prepare a DAP for the area delineated in the SP and UDP.

Some officials of the CDA's planning wing will be deputed as counterpart of the Project Management Unit of DAP. Geographic Information System (GIS) specialists and operators will be recruited to provide necessary training to strengthen technical capability of CDA. Two town planners will also be recruited for the project.

The project objectives include providing a basic urban design; guideline for developers in public & private sectors; clarity and security regarding future development of inhabitants and investors; sustainable environment through conservation of hills, water bodies and adequate provision for park and open spaces.

CDA Chief Engineer Shah

Mohammad Akhteruddin said that the objectives of the project should be implemented with the cooperation of the development agencies. So all the agencies should participate in the process of preparation of DAP.

In this regard, he said that the CMMP 1995 contained a set of plans in tune with the current planning practice and regarded urban management as a vital component of the development process. Coordination between CDA and its development partners, including Chittagong City Corporation (CCC), was a must for proper implementation in CMMP plans, he added.

Only a few of the recommendations made in the CMMP were implemented even nine years after it was prepared for lack of coordination, Akhteruddin said.



Students of Dr. Khastagir (Govt.) Girls' High School in the port city celebrate their achievements in the SSC examination in presence of their teachers, left. A girl who achieved GPA 5 hugs her mother in joy Right.

A taint in success

None from 14 schools under Chittagong Education Board passes this year's examinations

SHAHIDUL ISLAM

The overall result of Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examinations under Chittagong Education Board has appeared as a matter of great joy and satisfaction to most of the schools, teachers, guardians and the examinees except 14 schools.

None of 171 candidates from 14 schools passed this year's examinations under the board. Most of the schools are in remote tribal areas.

The institutions are: Momen Sikander Govt High School in Sandwip (total examinees 6), Chink Astana High School in Mirsara (2), Hosne Ara Girls High School in Chakaria (13), Haing Khali School in Ukhia (5), Barkal Hazchhari School (9), Harungi Para School (8) and Bhanupur School in Kaukhali (26), Dong Nala School in Kaptai (9), Kattali School in Longodu (12), Barkal Shuvolong School (10), Mahapuram School in Naniarchar (29), Betchhara School (2), Ultachhara School in Mahalchhara (24) and Fansiakhal School in Larna (16).

Board officials attributed

the dismal failures to many drawbacks, including poor academic environment and lack of facilities.

"The schools are beset with so many problems. They don't have enough and qualified teachers. Neither they have adequate class rooms nor backup facilities such as scientific materials," Controller of Examinations AYAM Obaidul Akbar said.

He said, poverty as well as insincerity of the students was also responsible for this result.

He said, "Any action against these schools solely depends on the ministry. All the examinees from more than 550 educational institutions across the country failed in this year's SSC examinations, he said. So, we cannot take any action against 14 schools separately."

"We are obviously delighted to see that plenty of Grade Point Average (GPA) 5 is scored. This result will encourage our students," he said.

Akbar said that a guideline was given to the examiners not to be so rigid like previous years and give the students their deserving marks.

The reputed schools in the port city once again have emerged as the most successful in terms of obtaining GPA 5 in this year's SSC examinations.

"Such good results are nothing but the outcome of excellent academic atmosphere, good teaching staffs, and sincere efforts of guardians, teachers and the students of our schools,"

Professor Hasina Zakaria, principal of Ispahani Public School and College and College 51, Nasirabad Govt High School 47, Chittagong Public School and College 36, Govt Girls High School 28, Govt Muslim High School 25, BAF Shaheen School and College 22, Aparna Charan City Corp. Girls High School 17, Bakalia Govt Boys High School 15, St. Scholastica Girls School 14, Chittagong University School and College 14, Kapasgola City Corp. Girls High School 13, Chittagong Urea Fertiliser School and College 13 and Cantonment High School 12.

Cox's Bazar Govt Girls High School showed the best performance with 10 GPA 5 followed by Chakaria Korak Biddiyapit 9 and Cox's Bazar Boys High School 8. Of the 1,209 GPA 5, 24 city schools and another school from Cox's Bazar scored 928 in the board. The rest 281 went to 125 schools.

Dr Khastagir Girls High School and Collegiate School have done best. Both the schools obtained 141 GPA 5 each against only three and 11 of last year.

However, Fauzderhat Cadet College came out the

best followed by Ispahani Public School and College. A total of 51 students appeared from Fauzderhat College and 44 (86.27 %) secured GPA 5. Out of 110 students of Ispahani School, 85 got the coveted feat (77.27 %) this year. The two institutions got 10 and six GPA 5 last year.

Besides, Bangladesh Mohila Samity Girls High School got 94 GPA 5, Chittagong Govt. High School 56, Nou-Bahini High School and College 51, Nasirabad Govt High School 47, Chittagong Public School and College 36, Govt Girls High School 28, Govt Muslim High School 25, BAF Shaheen School and College 22, Aparna Charan City Corp. Girls High School 17, Bakalia Govt Boys High School 15, St. Scholastica Girls School 14, Chittagong University School and College 14, Kapasgola City Corp. Girls High School 13, Chittagong Urea Fertiliser School and College 13 and Cantonment High School 12.

Cox's Bazar Govt Girls High School showed the best performance with 10 GPA 5 followed by Chakaria Korak Biddiyapit 9 and Cox's Bazar Boys High School 8.

Omar Gani MES College unit Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) organised a discussion the same day at college auditorium with unit president Abu Hossain in the chair.

Death anniversary of Jahanara Imam observed

The 10th death anniversary of Shaheed Janani Jahanara Imam was observed in the port city in a befitting manner.

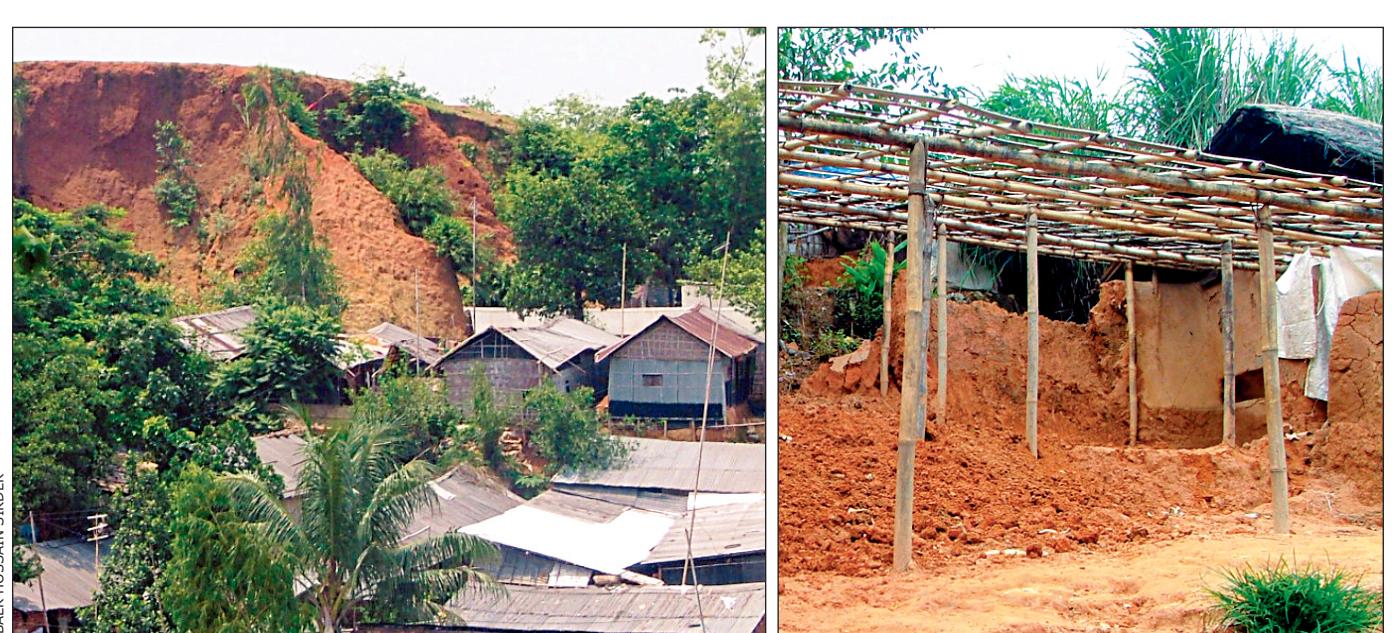
Prama, a cultural organisation, organised recitation, discussion meeting and cultural programme on the central Shaheed Minar premises on Saturday to mark the day. It also brought out a mourning procession.

Dr. Anupam Sen, Prothom Alo Resident Editor Abul Momen, Chittagong University Teachers' Association (CUTA) General Secretary Professor Dr Gazi Saleh Uddin and politician Kazi Shahjahan spoke at the

Non-formal edn for fishermen stressed

Speakers at a seminar emphasised the need for non-formal education for the fishermen in the coastal areas to enhance their overall living standard.

Gone Swakkharata Obhijaan (Mass Literacy Campaign) and Nowzwan jointly organised the seminar titled 'Education for all: Fishermen community and problem and ways of coastal areas' at the Patiya Upazila auditorium on Thursday.



Setting up of illegal slums on the treacherous and risky slopes and at the foot of hills goes on unabated in the port city although landslides are commonplace in the hilly areas. Only 12 days ago, a huge chunk of earth collapsed on the slum at the foothill (left). Despite the risk, a thatched house (right) was being erected on the slope of the same hill. Unscrupulous elements build such illegal slums on and around the hills to cash in on the need for low-cost houses for the poor people.

Pharmacy Instt to be set up at USTC

CPB demands ban on hill cutting

Vice-Chancellor of University of Science and Technology, Chittagong (USTC) Dr Nurul Islam said that a pharmacy institute with all modern facilities would be set up at the university soon.

He announced it at the inaugural ceremony of the 'Pharmacy Festival' of the USTC Pharmacy Department on Wednesday. Mayor ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury inaugurated the festival as chief guest.

"The proposed pharmacy institute aims at imparting practical knowledge to the students and it would have a research centre and a pharmaceutical industry to raise profits," Prof Islam said.

District President Mrinal Chowdhury, General Secretary Shah

Alam, Rahat Ullah and Saran Barua spoke at a brief rally organised during the human chain.

BSAA executives

Dr Md. Parvez Sajjad Akhter of Bengal Bay Group and Ahsanul Haq Chowdhury of Transmarine Logistic Services Limited were elected chairman and senior vice-chairman of Bangladesh Steamers Agents Association (BSAA) for two years.

The 18-member executive committee of the organisation was elected at a meeting at BSAA office in the city on Wednesday. Election commissioner Commodore (Retd) AZ Nizam conducted the election.

Earlier, Dr. Parvez Sajjad Akhter won the BSAA election bagging highest 56 votes from ordinary group while Ahsanul Haq Chowdhury won in

Associate group.

'80 lakh drug addicts in country'

The number of drug addicts in the country at present is over 80 lakh.

This was revealed at a seminar at the Moulana Bhasanai auditorium of University of Science and Technology Chittagong (USTC) on Wednesday.

"Addiction is simultaneously a psychological and physical disease. It cannot be cured only through physical treatment," speakers told the seminar.

Ark, a non-government organisation, in collaboration with USTC, World Health Organisation (WHO) and Bangladesh Anti-drug Federation (BAF) arranged the seminar. Ark's

chief executive Parvez Ahmed presided. Dr M Mostafa presented the keynote paper. USTC Vice-Chancellor Prof Dr Nurul Islam was present as chief guest and BAF Convenor Abdul Gaffar Chowdhury was the special guest.

Forum leaders Mozaffar Ahmad, Mustafizur Rahman, Arun Baran Roy, Abul Kalam Chowdhury and Babul Alam also addressed the meeting.

Rotary Club charter presentation

The Charter Presentation ceremony of Rotary Club of Chittagong Ocean Blue was held at Hotel Agrabad on Wednesday. Vice-Chancellor of Chittagong University (CU) Prof AJM Nuruddin Chowdhury inaugurated the function as chief guest.

Governor of District-3280 Mir Anisuzzaman, Rotarians MA Awal, Rafi Ahmed and Shahid Khan spoke at the function.

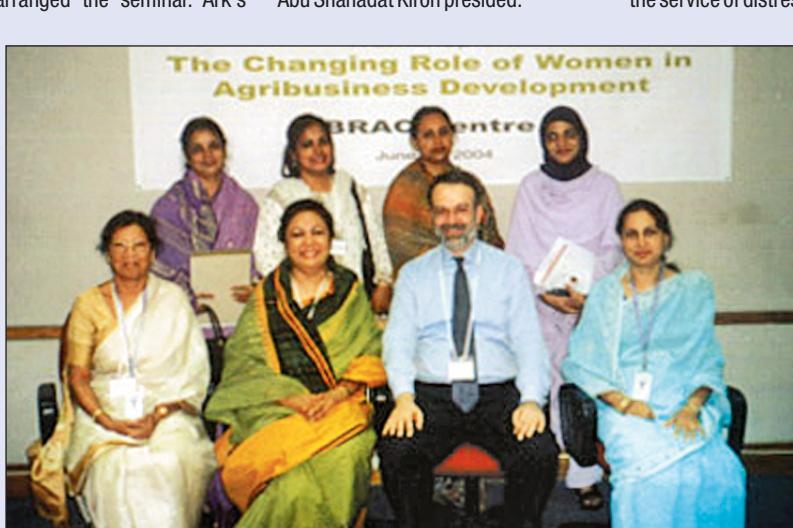
The VC urged all Rotarians to engage themselves more actively in the service of distressed humanity.

Discussion meeting.

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Visitors at a three-day photo exhibition organised by "Portrait", a photography journal, at Chittagong Shilpkala Academy on Friday.



Women Entrepreneurs (WE), Chittagong President Monowara Hakim Ali, 2nd from left, and other members of the organisation pose for photograph with director Francisco Jillette, 2nd from right, of workshop on 'Changing Role of Women in Agribusiness Development'.



Mayor ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury gives away prizes to the winners of Shishu Parliament, a children's debate competition, at Chittagong District Council auditorium on Friday. Justice KM Sobhan is also seen. Chittagong City Khelaghara organised the event.