



Rubble from the 28 shops that had been illegally built on NSC land awaits cleaning.

# Sports land regained but culprits at large

KAUSAR ISLAM AYON

The National Sports Council (NSC) is yet to take any formal action against a number of employees who had illegally leased out a prime land beside the swimming pool at Bangabandhu National Stadium two years ago.

The NSC in December 2004 evicted the 28 shops that had been built on this piece of land on a recent revelation that a few ruling party-backed union leaders of the NSC illegally leased out the land to innocent investors.

The leaders of the National Sports Council Nationalist Sramik Dal and Karmachari Union (NSCNSKU) illegally leased out the prime land in September 2002 and earned at least Tk. 2 crore charging between Tk 8 lakh and 12 lakh

from each shop owner.

Abdus Sattar, president of NSCNSKU, had signed agreements of lease on Tk 150 stamp papers as the owner of the shops although the real owner of the land is the NSC.

Jahangir Alam, general secretary of the NSCNSKU, SM Edris Ali, Assistant General Secretary, Aminur Rahman Babul, cashier, Monir Hossain, organising secretary, and Mostafa Kamal, office secretary of the same union were witnesses to the agreements.

NSC officials said they could not take any action against the unionists as no-one had filed any official complaint with documents of allotment.

"They will definitely be punished, we will take departmental actions against officials involved in such a practice. But we need a written complaint

from the victims with supporting documents," said SM Shibly Nazir, director administration of the NSC.

Although the victims would have made written complaints to the NSC, the officials involved had threatened the businessmen against it.

"We have filed a general diary (GD) with the Motijheel Police Station, but we haven't complained to the NSC yet as the officials are trying to negotiate with us and informed us that we will get back our shops," said one of the victims.

"We can act against the officials involved and try to get back the victims' money, but there is no hope of having the shops back in the same place," said Nazir.

One of the victims said he had paid Tk 8.5 lakh but the agreement showed that he

owned an allotment worth Tk 1.5 lakh only.

"We were forced to sign agreements at lower values, or else we would have been denied of the allotment," he said.

If the authorities take initiatives to help us recover our money we will get back the amounts mentioned in the agreements, but if we get the shops back we may be able to recover all our losses," said another victim.

If the land was leased out unofficially, how did these shops run for more than two years?

A member of the union said that they were not alone in the deals, some high officials were indirectly involved in the allotments.

Repeated attempts to make any office bearer of the Nationalist Karmachari Union talk to the Star City on the issue proved futile.

# Paintball hits the capital

SYED TASHFIN CHOWDHURY

Xtreme Paintball, a new game park recently launched at Panthapath, is anticipating a rush of customers in the near future.

According to the park's staff, the lack of knowledge of city

dwellers about paintball was the main reason for the limited turn out of visitors at present.

"Most of our regular customers are foreigners who reside in areas like Banani, Gulshan, and Baridhara and are already familiar with the game," said the manager

of the game park which was launched on December 8 last year.

The park which is spread over a 2.5 bigha land opposite to the Bashundhara City has a restaurant near the entrance and the main battleground at the back.

A player has to change into

pyjamas and wear a helmet. Then equipped with toy guns, vests, markers, mask and coloured paintballs as bullets, he has to shoot at the opponent. Each magazine has 15 bullets. The shooter scores as soon as the ball hits the opponent who is marked

'out'.

'Capture the Flag' has proved the most popular game at the park so far. Two teams are divided in equal numbers and as soon as the referee gives his signal, the game begins with both teams advancing toward each other and at the same time trying to mark the other with the paintballs.

As soon as somebody gets hit, he has to return to the designated base and restart from there. The first team to get hold of the flag, fixed at the centre of the battleground, and reach the opponent's base wins the game.

"Even though the universal rule for paintball is 'shot and you are out', the players can modify rules and play according to their own wishes here," said Sarf Emdad, owner of Xtreme Paintball.

Emdad, who grew up in the United States wanted to spread the paintball craze in Dhaka and also dreamt of creating a place where young people of the city could hang out during their free time. With that concept in mind he initiated Xtreme Paintball.

In order to provide a high degree of satisfaction to the customers, Emdad imported all the apparatus and equipment from Hong Kong. The park is also affiliated with the Asian Paintball Incorporated.

The rates for playing games are affordable and those who are not in the mood for paintball, can simply enjoy a quick snack at the restaurant, play badminton or watch sports on the big screen projector at the park.

"There are clubs in Dhaka for the adults but the teenagers and youths have always complained



about the scarcity of spots where they can enjoy themselves. But people of all ages can come here," said Emdad.

The strategic features of the sport, which enhances teamwork, self-confidence, leadership abili-

ties and other such qualities in players, has made it a favorite pastime for business organisations world over.

"We have already had the staff of the British American Tobacco Bangladesh try out the game and

they actually loved it," said the owner.

Emdad is also expecting a similar kind of response from other business houses and also hopes to attract the general public.



SYED ZAKIR HOSSAIN

## 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  
Balsakhli 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 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, 955640  
The American Centre (IRC)- 8813440-4, 9886395  
The 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- 8850141, 8850142  
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
6A	Kamalapur-Motijheel-Gulistan-Shahbagh-Farmgate-Gulshan 1, 2	Kamalapur
6B	Kamalapur-Motijheel-Gulistan-Maghbazar-Nabisco-Gulshan 1, 2	Kamalapur
6C	Motijheel Shapla chattr- Mallbagh- Farmgate- Gulshan 2	Motijheel Shaplachatter
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 Ranimahall
10	Sadarghat-Gulistan-Kakrail-Mallbagh-Rampura-Biswa Road-Tongi Bridge	Sadarghat
11	Sayedabad-Motijheel-Fakirapool-Maghbazar-Mohakhali-Tongi Bridge	Sayedabad
11/A	Sayedabad-Khligoan-Mallbagh-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