



PHOTO: STAR

Poor drainage system and lack of maintenance left this road at Islambagh in the city in shambles. The road goes under water even after a little rainfall, adding suffering to the pedestrians as well as passengers.

## Bus rams concrete slab in city: 15 hurt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 15 passengers were injured when a bus rams a concrete slab at Airport Road in the capital yesterday noon.

Police said the driver was driving the bus recklessly towards the Airport at around 12:00pm and hit the slab at the entry gate of VIP terminal of Zia International Airport in order to avoid collision with a CNG autorickshaw coming from the opposite direction.

Two of the injured were admitted to a local hospital while the rest sustained minor injuries.

Police seized the vehicle but the driver managed to flee.

## Japan to help hold free, fair polls

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Japan will continue its support for socio-economic development in Bangladesh and will also cooperate with the country to hold the next general elections in a free and fair manner.

Matsushiro Horiguchi, Japanese ambassador in Dhaka, said the Tuesday Group and Japan extended technical support to Bangladesh during the 2001 general elections and will continue to do so in future.

He said Japan and Tuesday Group would organise a conference in November or December in Dhaka. Leaders of political parties, NGOs, and members of the civil society will attend this conference to discuss how the next general elections can be held in a free

and fair manner.

The Japanese ambassador expressed his surprises over Foreign Minister M. Morshed Khan's remark concerning the Tuesday Group and Japan's move to hold such a conference.

"Our effort is to provide technical support for holding a free and fair election; we did not say anything regarding the constitutional amendment and we are not working for it," he said.

Mr Horiguchi said he found nothing wrong in holding such a conference. The ambassador was addressing a seminar on "Prime Minister Khaleda Zia's visit to Japan: Its impact on Japan-Bangladesh relations" organised by the Bangladesh-Japan Friendship Association at Dhaka Reporters' Unity.

## CASE AGAINST ARMAN 3 PWs give deposition

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Three prosecution witnesses in an Arms case against Arman Khan, one of the 23 most wanted criminals of the Dhaka Metropolitan Police, gave their deposition before a Dhaka court yesterday.

Judge Mohammad Rabiul Hassan of the Second Additional Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court recorded statements of the witnesses-- Liakot Hossain, Shamsul Haq and Nazrul Islam-- and later they were cross-examined by the defence lawyers.

Arman was produced before the court from Kashimpur Jail amid tight security.

Earlier, ten prosecution witnesses, including complainant Sub-Inspector Abdur Rouf of Rab-4, were cross-examined.

# Enact tougher laws to check food adulteration

## Speakers tell workshop

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a workshop yesterday called for raising awareness among the consumers and enacting tougher laws to check food adulteration.

They also suggested forming a single coordination body to maintain strict vigilance and monitor the activities of the food producers and traders.

The Directorate of Food and Department of Disaster Management arranged the workshops on 'Food adulteration in Bangladesh' to find out a way to prevent food adulteration.

Government officials, food producers and traders and consumers' rights activists took part in the workshop held in the city.

Speaking as the chief guest, Food and Disaster Management Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf said the government is sincere about ensuring unadulterated and hygienic foods.

The food producers and traders

urged the minister to formulate a policy and a code of conduct for them.

Deputy Minister for Disaster Management Asadul Habib Dulu said the media is playing a positive role in checking food adulteration.

Experts from the department of public health, the directorate of food and the Consumer Association of Bangladesh (CAB) presented three keynote papers at the workshop.

The participants also placed some recommendations, including formulation of a policy for food production, processing and marketing.

They also called for forming a committee with representatives from all sections of the food sector, which will work as a watchdog.

They suggested launching a regular TV programme on quality and hygienic foods to raise awareness among the

people. They also recommended modernising the food testing laboratories in the country and arranging training programme for the staffs working in this sector.

Zahid Hossain, director general of the food directorate, chaired the workshop.

## CCC demolishes 400 illegal structures

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) yesterday demolished around 400 illegal structures to recover its land worth around Tk 18 crore in the port city.

During the 6-hour drive led by CCC Magistrate Syeda Sarwar Jahan some 300 thatched and semi-pacca houses and shops were demolished at both the sides of the road in front of Shishu Hospital at Agrabad under Double Mooring thana.

CCC also demolished 80 semi-pacca shops and clubs erected illegally on Saiful Alam (Babul) Sarak during the drive. The occupants had been hindering expansion of the road since long.

Meanwhile, during the drive CCC also evicted some sixty fruit-vendors who erected makeshift shops occupying the roads in front of Agrabad CGS Building and Lucky Plaza.

Four platoons of forces from Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) assisted the drive that continued till 4:00pm.



PHOTO: STAR

Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) bulldozes about 400 unauthorised structures in the port city yesterday.



PHOTO: STAR

Poet Shamsur Rahman inaugurated a photo exhibition at the Drik Gallery in the city yesterday. The three-day exhibition will remain open from 10:00am to 10:00pm daily.

## Photo exhibition on Iraq war

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A three-day news photo exhibition on Iraq war began at the Drik Gallery in the city yesterday.

One hundred selected photographs by Jewel Samad, a young photojournalist of AFP, have been put on display. Samad took the snaps when he visited Iraq in 2003 and 2004.

In the name of humanity, repression by demons is going on in different countries, but nobody can accept such inhuman invasion, said poet Shamsur Rahman after inaugurating the exhibition.

He said these photos have depicted the barbarism by the USA in Iraq.

The evil forces will ultimately lose their power one day as they don't have moral strength, the poet added.

Focus Bangla, the first news photo agency in the country, has organised the exhibition which will remain open from 10:00am to 10:00pm daily.

President of Bangladesh Photojournalists' Association AKM Mohsin, General Secretary Mir Ahmed Miru and Kamal Hossain of Focus Bangla were present at the inaugural ceremony.