



## AGGRESSIVE URBANISATION

**E**XTRACTION of sand from riverbeds of Dhaleswari and Meghna has continued for years. Over the last five years sand extraction from riverbeds grew phenomenally with the booming housing projects and developers filling up thousands of acres of low-lying lands around the city. Thousands of sand-laden cargo ships shuttled between Ashuliya and Gazaria in the Meghna and Dhaleshwari day and night to cope with the rising demand for sand. Nearly the entirety of the city's peripheral low-lying lands is now subjected to landfill, thanks to the makeshift technology of extraction and delivery through steel pipes. For the last four weeks however the extraction process has come to a halt with the government deciding to temporarily ban sand extraction. Swiss photographer Miriam Keunzli, catches some moments of landfill in Keraniganj area.

