



Developers continue their work in the Hatinjheel canal in the capital as the authorities are yet to take any step to stop it despite recent commitment to save the waterbody.

## HATIRJHEEL, BEGUNBARI CANALS

## No step yet to stop choking of 2 major flood outlets

PINAKI ROY

The government is yet to take any step to stop "development" work in Hatinjheel and Begunbari canals despite experts' recommendations and the government's earlier commitment for saving the two adjoining water bodies in the capital.

The significance of Begunbari and Hatinjheel wetlands in southern and central parts of Dhaka lies in the fact that connected to the

Narai canal they drain out rainwater from a vast area of the city.

The wetlands—Hatinjheel on the east of the Tongi Diversion Road and Begunbari on the west—also form part of the flood retention zone.

However, most part of the Begunbari wetland is already occupied. Bangladesh Railway has also leased out pieces of land in Begunbari area to different public and private organisations, which

have built multi-storey buildings ignoring laws that prohibit filling up of wetlands.

In Hatinjheel too influential and local people have built more than 1,200 illegal structures over the years.

Experts said if Begunbari and Hatinjheel cannot be saved, the city's inundation problem will increase manifold causing a great disaster to the city's environment.

If Begunbari and Hatinjheel

cannot be saved, the drainage balance of the capital will be completely destroyed," said Iqbal Habib, architect and wetland expert with Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon (Bapa).

According to a recent survey of the Rajdhani Unnayan Kartirpakkha (Rajuk), there are 1,261 illegal structures only in Hatinjheel area: 150 one-storey to six-storey concrete structures, 855

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anyway against Bangladesh, the left-right combination once again played big role as Sri Lanka ended the day exactly on 500 for 4, already a mammoth 369-run first innings lead.

Sri Lanka skipper Jayawardene was dismissed after scoring 165 runs but his deputy Sangakkara, who was unbeaten on 222, slammed his second consecutive

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Rajuk surveyor held with fake seals, cheques & passports

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The joint forces on Thursday night arrested a suspended surveyor of Rajdhani Unnayan Kartirpakkha (Rajuk) at his residence in Uttara.

The surveyor (Kanungo), Nikhil Chandra Das, who is known as Barua among his colleagues, allegedly confessed to the forces that he owns wealth worth around Tk 10 crore, sources in the joint forces said.

A team of the joint forces raided Nikhil's rented house in Sector-11, Road no 5/C in Uttara at 10:00pm.

They searched all rooms of the house for one and a half hours and recovered 48 forged seals of top Rajuk officials including that of the

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Kumar, Mahela rule

BISHWAJIT ROY from Kandy

There were spells of sporadic rain but those could not stop a full day's action, unlike the last two days, on the third day of the final Test as Kumar Sangakkara and Mahela Jayawardene put the Bangladesh bowling attack to sword at the Asgiriya Stadium here yesterday.

During their record third wicket stand of 311 runs, the highest for

any wicket against Bangladesh, the left-right combination once again played big role as Sri Lanka ended the day exactly on 500 for 4, already a mammoth 369-run first innings lead.

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ADCOMM 2007

Sircar violated basic standard of financial propriety  
M Hafizuddin writes to The Daily Star

Section 10 of the General Financial Rules says: "Every officer incurring or authorising expenditure from public funds should be guided by high standards of financial propriety."

Its sub-section 3 says: "No authority should exercise its powers for sanctioning expenditure to pass an order which will be directly or indirectly to its own advantage."

According to the general financial rules, the mother of all financial rules, the existing practice is

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Reforms with a 'motive' won't bring good

Says Gayeshwar after meeting Bhuiyan

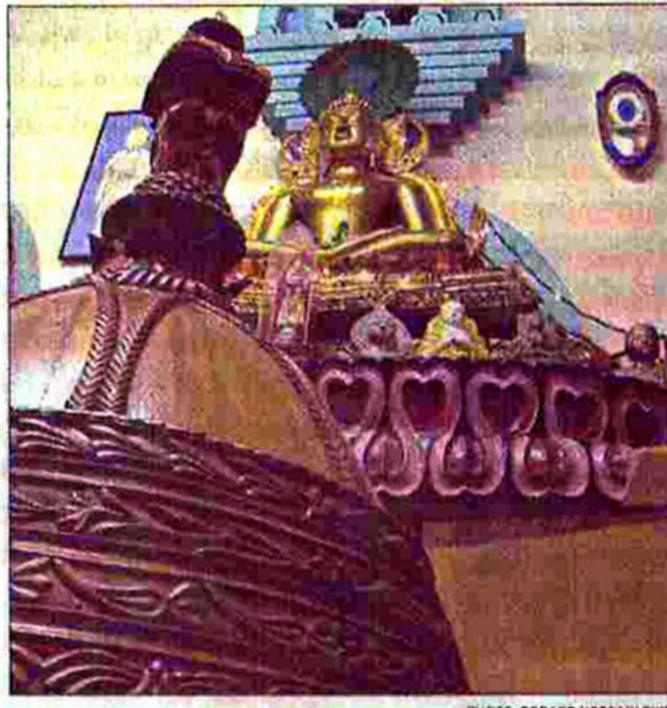
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Joint Secretary General Gayeshwar Chandra Roy, who has all along been siding with Khaleda Zia on the issue of intra-party reforms, yesterday met pro-reform leader and Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan.

Coming out of the meeting at Bhuiyan's Gulshan residence, he said that it would bring no good for the party or the country if there is a motive behind the reform initiative.

"Reforms should be carried out with everyone involved in the process and no particular individual on the sidelines," he told the

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This adorned wooden pot in front of the statue of Buddha contains his hair, part of which will be gifted to Sri Lanka.