

CDA raises citizens' hopes for plots

ABDULLAH AL MAHMUD

Fast development of residential areas and fair allocation of plots by Chittagong Development Authority (CDA) have raised hopes among the common people for a piece of land in the port city.

Success in three projects encourages it to plan for more such residential projects with relaxed conditions for plots, sources said.

With the latest allotment of 1521 plots in Ananya Residential Area on April 21 the CDA has allocated 2351 residential plots under three projects since March 22, 2006.

On the other hand, the authorities could allocate 3526 plots in eight other housing projects developed since 1961.

These eight residential areas include Agrabad CDA Residential Area (R/A) with 774 plots, Silimpur R/A with 1029 plots, Karnaphuli Bamtir R/A with 516 plots, Chandgaon R/A phase I and II with 689 plots, Chandrima R/A 183 plots, Faujderhat R/A with 164 plots, Halishahar R/A with 22 plots, Katalganj R/A with 51 plots, Sholoshahar R/A with 98 plots and Karnaphuli R/A with 516 plots.

Of them, the projects in Silimpur and Karnaphuli scheduled to be implemented by 1983 and 1993 are yet to prove success as the authorities concerned could not provide utility services till date.

Delay in implementing the projects and reported nepotism and irregularities in allotment



Acting City Mayor M Manjur Alam inaugurates the open lottery of plot allotment of Ananya Housing Project at Chittagong Development Authority (CDA) hall room on Monday.

process earned a bad name for CDA when common people hardly thought of applying for plots, sources said.

Situation, however, started improving after a new allotment policy was introduced in 2005 with honest and professional officials.

The CDA, under the new policy, introduced open lottery system for allotments of plots among 400 applicants, out of 1047, in Kalpaloke first phase on March 22, 2006.

The lottery was held nine

years after the project was initiated in June in 1997 and over three years the application forms were submitted with an average deposition of Tk 1.5 lakh by November 17, 2002.

The CDA holds lottery for plots in Kalpaloke second phase only after five months (on August 29) the same year in participation of almost double number of applicants. A total of 1924 applications were submitted with deposition of Tk 5 lakh each for 430 plots in the project.

It initiated for developing

around 1550 plots in Ananya Residential Area over 174 acres of land in the Kulgaon area in August last year.

A total of 5521 applicants submitted applications with deposit money of Tk 5 lakh each by October 2, 2007.

The lottery scheduled for November was delayed due to complexities in land acquired for the project before it could be held on April 21.

To cater the increasing need for housing, CDA now plans to develop two more projects over

500 acres of land in Bakalia and Quish areas in the city within a short time, said the sources.

The expatriates will have priority for the plots in these residential areas. The project at Bakalia will be developed in the shape of a China town where apartment buildings will house commercial establishments in the lower floors and residential apartments on the upper floors, sources said.

"CDA has already submitted a proposal for developing the Fateyabad New Township on 5000 acres of land at Fateyabad involving around Tk 6000 crore, said CDA Chairman Shah Muhammad Akhter Uddin while talking to this correspondent at his office on April 21.

He said they are proceeding for the projects for which 2.5 hectares (over 100 acres) of land are needed for 400 plots on each hectare," he said.

He said the CDA will involve developers for construction of buildings with a provision of 20 per cent apartments for the low-income group.

Akhter said they are thinking of relaxing the conditions for owning the developed plots, extending time for making payment in several installments and reducing the rate of interest to a tolerable limit.

Besides, CDA has taken initiative to revive Salimpur residential and Karnaphuli residential projects, he said.

He said the CDA will serve notice to the owners of 100 plots under alternative use or lying vacant at Salimpur R/A to ensure their proper use within a month.



The authorities of different utility services have started digging the city roads a month after the completion of their repair work by the Chittagong City Corporation (CCC). The picture was taken from Zakir Hossain Road when Bakharabad Gas Systems Limited was digging the road.

Pirated books flood city markets

Students face problems, traders count loss and government deprives of revenue

DWAIPAYAN BARUA

Pirated copies of books of higher education are flooding the bookshops in the port city, causing loss to the importers and distributors alongside depriving the government of revenue.

The students are also facing problems due to supply of such pirated books by a section of unscrupulous traders.

The books, reprinted and marketed in violation of copyright act, are now available at different bookshops in the city.

Police unearthed an illegal printing press and godown, seized huge quantity of such pirated books and arrested two people in this connection on April 16. A case has also been filed with Kotwali Police Station in this connection the same day.

Detective Branch (DB) of Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) led by Assistant

Commissioner (AC) Ashikul Hoque Bhuiyan unearthed the press and four-room godown (storehouse) during its drive at a market near Boro Masjid on Sirajdoulah Road at Chandanpura in the port city.

Some 20,000 pirated books of different courses of higher education like MBBS, MBA, engineering and basic sciences worth over Tk 1 crore were seized from the godown.

Two people identified as Tofajjal Hossain Sajib, 27, an MBA student of Chittagong University and Shamsuddin, 35, were arrested in this connection.

The books of MBBS courses include Human Anatomy by BD Chaurasia, Human Anatomy by AK Datta, Atlas of Human Anatomy by Frank H Netter, Taber's Cyclopedic Medical Dictionary, Langman's Medical Embryology, Test Book of Medical Physiology, Essentials

of Human Anatomy by AK Datta and others.

Huge copies of books used in MBA course like Principles of Marketing by Philip Kotler and Gery Armstrong, Accounting Principles by Weygandt, Kieso and Kimmel, Marketing Management by Philip Kotler and Kevin Lane Keller, Essential of Managerial Finance by Scott Besley and Eugene F Bridgman, Business Mathematics by DC Sancheti and VK Kapoor and Organization Behaviour were found stockpiled at the godown.

The recovered cache also included pirated books of basic sciences like Advanced Organic Chemistry (for BSC and MSC student) by Arun Baht and BS Baht, Modern Inorganic Chemistry by RD Madan, Theory and Problem's of Vector Analysis by Murray R Spiegel, Advanced Engineering Mathematics by HK Dass, Modern Microeconomics (The-



Police seize pirated books of higher studies in the port city recently.

ory and Applications) by HL Ahuja and many other books.

Detectives also launched such a sudden drive and seized 108 copies of pirated academic books of MBBS courses from five bookstalls at Shahi Jame Mosque Shopping Complex at Anderkilla on January 22.

The bookstores were Panguine Library, Book Eden, Orient Book, Book Garden and Hossainia Library.

A case was filed under Section 82 of the Copyright Act with Kotwali Police Station in this connection. But, the bookshop owners were on the run until obtaining bails from the High Court in the capital to avoid the arrest.

"Since then we were in search of the press and the persons involved in publishing and marketing such books and at last we succeeded," said Ashikul while talking to The Daily Star on Saturday.

Quoting confessional statements of arrestees, he said they (arrestees) have been marketing and supplying such books at different bookshops in the port city and the capital for the last two and a half years.

DB Inspector Mezba Uddin Ahmad, investigation officer (IO) of both the cases, will submit charge sheet in the first case soon.

Meanwhile students, teachers and traders demanded exemplary punishment to those involved in such illegal business.

Chittagong Medical College (CMC) Principal Prof Dr MA Wahab said students will face problems if they use pirated books with illegible prints and poor quality pictures of different human organs and diagram.

He said in medical study picture is very important and unclear picture might give a

wrong message to the students.

Limon, a CMC student, said they prefer to buy the pirated copies of books due to their cheaper rates. He said sometime they get those at half the price or one third of reduced rates.

Golum Mostafa, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Parama Publisher and Distributor, said they have been incurring a huge loss every year.

He said the pirated copies are small in size compared to the original ones and are published in one colour with bellow quality pictures while the original copies are four coloured.

Moreover, below quality papers are used in publishing the pirated copies to keep the price cheaper, he added.

Parama Publisher and Distributor is reportedly the lone importer and distributor of foreign academic books of different higher courses.

the week that was

Education and career expo ends

A three-day education and career exhibition titled "Education & Career@ Bangladesh Expo-08" and a workshop on "How to face an interview, concluded in the port city on Saturday.

Scintilla Limited, an event management organisation, organised the exposition and workshop at Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh (IEB) Chittagong Centre auditorium.

Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industries (CCC) Vice President Mahub Alam was the chief guest at the concluding ceremony with the Scintilla Limited Managing Director Mohammad Shahjahan in the chair.

Nuvista Pharma Limited Director (Marketing) Rahbar A Anwar was the

main speaker in the workshop while Scintilla Director Emadul Aziz Chowdhury and Jasim Chowdhury were present at the ceremony.

Prothom-alojobs.com was the web partner of the exhibition while Radio Today was the radio partner.

A total of 30 stalls related to education and career took part in the exhibition.

Course on Cinematography

Certificate giving ceremony of first and second batches of the course titled "Understanding cinematography" was held on Friday.

Ajantrik, a cultural organisation, organised the course at its office at Jamal Khan Road in the port city.

Course Adviser Artist Dhali Al

Mamun handed over certificates among the participants while the course Director Rafiqul Anwar Rassel also attended it.

Dhali Al Mamun emphasised the need for working together to develop quality, efficiency and professionalism in this sector.

Rafiqul Anwar hoped to organise advanced courses along with the primary courses in future.

Computer Training Concludes

A 42-day computer training for female members of Village Defence Police (VDP) concluded on Saturday.

Chittagong and Chittagong Hill Tracts Range Circle-Adjutant

Mohammad Manjur-Ul-Alam was the chief guest at the certificate giving at Anwar-VDP Training Centre in the city's Foy's Lake area.

A total of 20 female VDP members took part in the training while Mohammad Shamsuzzaman, Abdul Wazed and Mohammad Towhidul Alam Chowdhury Babu conducted the training.

The 19 Ansar Battalion BQM Anup Kumar Barua also attended the ceremony.

Later, the chief guest handed over prizes and certificates among the participants.

'SB playing vital role in economy'

Speakers said Sonali Bank has been playing a vital role in country's econ-

omy through its widespread services at home and abroad.

They said the bank is now providing 49 free services and hope that it will provide better computerised and online services in future.

They were addressing a subscribers' meeting organised to mark the "Business Promotion Month April, 2008" at Jamal Khan Branch in the port city on Wednesday.

The Daily Prothom Alo Resident Editor Abul Momen was the chief guest at the meeting with Branch Manager Mohammad Nurun Nabi in the chair.

The Bank Chittagong Principal Office Deputy General Manager Nani Gopal Nath was the main speaker. Assistant General Manager KJM Omar Faruk, Senior Principal Officer Mohammad Selim Uddin, Daily Jugantor Chittagong Bureau Chief

Jasim Chowdhury Sabuz, Chittagong College former principal Prof Sudhir Bikash Dev, Social Worker Syed Mohammad Zakaria and Branch Senior Officer Ahmed Sofa spoke at the meeting.

Installation ceremony held

Installation ceremony of Chakaria-Pekua Chhatra Forum Chittagong University was held at Moniruzzaman Islamabad Memorial Hall in the port city on Saturday.

BGC Trust University Bangladesh Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Mohammad Nurul Mostafa was the chief guest at the function with convenor of the organisation Abdul Majid in the chair.

Newly elected President Jayed Iqbal Marshal, General Secretary Mohiuddin

Kader Audul and 32 executive committee members took oath in the ceremony.

Chakaria Samity Chittagong President Anwar Hossain, Sylhet unit President Mohammad Zamir uddin Chowdhury, Mohammad Muhib Ullah, Mohammad Shawkat Ali, Ershaduzzaman and Imtiaz Ahmed Rajib spoke at the ceremony.

Artist Shawkat awarded gold medal

Artist Shawkat Jahan was awarded the "Atish Dipankar Gold Medal-2008" from Chittagong division for his contribution to painting and painting for children.

Autish Dipankar Gobeshona

Parishad (Research Institute) awarded the prize to mark the silver jubilee of the institute.

Shawkat received the award at a ceremony at Bangladesh China Friendship Conference Centre in the capital on Thursday.

Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) Chairman Prof Mozaffer Ahmad was the chief guest at the function while Atish Dipankar University of Science and Technology Vice Chancellor (VC) Prof Dr Anwara Begum, Bangladesh Press Council former chairman Justice Habibur Rahman Khan and Bangladesh Bank Deputy Governor Murshid Kuli Khan were present as the special guests.

Artist Shawkat is now working as the teacher of Fine Arts at Chittagong Bandar High School.