

# Canal digging eases waterlogging in Ctg

SHAHIDUL ISLAM, Ctg

Despite heavy downpour in last few days, the port city experienced for the first time an amazingly less waterlogging this year than ever before, thanks to different pragmatic initiatives of the Chittagong City Corporation (CCC).

With this 'pleasing' success in fighting the decade-old waterlogging, the CCC is now looking forward to rid completely its 40 lakh people of the once-perennial problem by next one or two years.

In the past, the city's low-lying areas like Bohaddarhat, Muradpur, Chawk Bazar, Kapashgola, Katalganj, Chandgaon, Panchlaish, Sholoshahar, Nasirabad, Sholokbahar, Halishahar, Bakalia and Chaktai used to go under knee-to-waist deep water in the face of even a moderate shower.

But this time, despite a heavy shower measuring 420.4mm (over 16 inches) in three days since July 27 to 29, the city didn't confront the problem of waterlogging that seriously.

Rain water through most of the canals that criss-cross those traditional low-lying areas was seen flowing fast without inundating much the localities, roads and alleys this



The port city is mostly free from waterlogging problem during this rainy season as the Chittagong City Corporation dug different canals by its excavators during the dry season. The photo was taken from Sholo Shahar area.

year. For this remarkable improvement, common people have given credit to the CCC's extensive renovation works including dredging and widening of the existing 144 canals for the last eight months beginning in November last year.

Sources said the corporation started work on a Tk 3 crore project using sophisticated excavators and other

modern equipment instead of traditional and time-wasting manual system that helped the CCC men to do the renovation works properly and within the shortest possible time.

The major canals dredged and widened include Mohesh Khal (canal) at Halishahar, Chaktai Khal from Chamra Gudam to Bohaddarhat, Bamun Shahi Khal, Mirza Khal and Dom Khal at Chandgaon, Chasma Khal and Naya Khal at Sholokbahar, Birza Khal at East Sholoshahar, Tripura Khal at Aturer Depot at West Sholoshahar, Bahar Khal at Saraipara, Nasir khal at North Agrabad, Shital Jharna at Panchlaish and Rampur Khal at Rampur.

Md Kamrul Islam, CCC executive engineer, told The Daily Star on Wednesday that this year's less waterlogging is an outcome of continuous excavation of the canals and regular monitoring by CCC

engineers, staffs and workers.

"In addition to that, we engaged ward-based teams in all the 41 wards headed by respective ward councillor to carry out other renovation works," he said, adding "We didn't engage any contractor from outside or any hired workforce."

Ali Ashraf, former chairman of the Institution of Engineers Bangladesh (IEB), Chittagong and an expert on dredging, said excavation of more canals is needed to rid Chittagong completely of waterlogging problem.

CCC Mayor ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury said it was a collective efforts and cooperation from the city dwellers that helped reduce the waterlogging to a great extent.

"We will continue our efforts and try to free Chittagong completely from waterlogging by next one or two years," he added.

## BMCH interns postpone strike

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Intern doctors at Bangladesh Medical College and Hospital (BMCH) in the city have postponed their strikes of August 7.

This was stated by Deputy Director of BMCH Abdur Rouf Sardar while talking to The Daily Star yesterday.

He said on the basis of the assurances from the authorities concerned the intern doctors resumed their duties from noon after a five-day strike.

Some 100 intern doctors had been on strike since Sunday demanding removal of Abu Sayeed Miah, store officer and general secretary of the Officers and Employees Welfare Association of BMCH.

Following an altercation between the store officer and two intern doctors at the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) on Sunday the intern doctors began their strike.

It forced the authorities concerned to form a committee headed by Prof Mahmud Hasan of the Department of Psychiatry to investigate the matter.

The other members of the committee are Prof Shamsul Alam of the Department of Surgery, Prof M A Jaygirder of Pediatrics, and Prof Ashraf of ENT.

Sources said Abu Sayeed begged pardon of intern doctors for his misbehaviour yesterday.

Abdur Rouf claimed that services to patients were not hindered as the assistant registrars and medical officers were on duty.

There are five assistant registrars and seven medical officers in every department of 358-bed hospital and they had been looking after the patients, he added.

But a relative of a patient preferring anonymity said, "We are getting only partial service as the intern doctors are not working."

"No doctors came to visit us today (yesterday)," said an attendant of another patient, adding that a professor just came twice in the last few days.

## Produce fruits, vegetables to meet nutritional needs

Expert says at lecture

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh should concentrate on producing more fruits and vegetables instead of cultivating only rice to meet nutritional demands, an expert said at a lecture yesterday.

Asiatic Society of Bangladesh arranged the programme as part of its monthly lecture at its auditorium in the city.

Prof Md Azizul Haque of Bangladesh Agricultural University delivered the lecture on 'Poverty alleviation and nutrition through production of horticultural crops in Bangladesh'.

He said supply of fruits and vegetables per capita in Bangladesh are 41 grams of fruits and 85 grams of vegetables per day i.e. a total of 46kgs of fruits and vegetables per year. Whereas recommended intake is 146kg per year.

Prof Azizul said despite steady progress towards industrialisation, agriculture remains the most important sector in Bangladesh. About 21 percent of the gross domestic product comes from agricultural sector. It can be increased if we grow more vegetables and fruits, which can also be exported after meeting domestic needs.

Again the horticulture can provide continuous employment in the country as it can occupy all the family members of a farmer's family making it more productive, he said.

Azizul recommended developing appropriate programme for the farmers, improving production technique along with seeds and planting material, providing financial assistance to the farmers, ensuring fair price with proper storage and marketing

facilities and using the arable land judiciously to alleviate poverty.

Prof Sirajul Islam, president of Asiatic Society of Bangladesh, presided over the programme.

## 1,582 more arrested

UNB, Dhaka

Police arrested 1,582 people on various charges in separate drives across the country in last 24 hours till 6:00am on Thursday.

Six bombs, three firearms and seven bullets were seized during the drive, says a press release.

Four cases were filed under the Arms Act, it said.

Besides, 42 motorbikes without valid documents were seized during the drive. Some 265 cases were filed in this connection.

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**NOTICE**  
**HALF-YEARLY ACCOUNTS**

This is notified for all concerned that as per Rule 13 of Securities and Exchange Rules 1987, we have despatched on 30th July 2009 the un-audited accounts for the half year ended 30th June 2009, to all the Shareholders of the Company, the Securities and Exchange Commission, Dhaka Stock Exchange Ltd. and Chittagong Stock Exchange Ltd. This is also in compliance to Circular No. SEC/CFD/11: 7/99/196 dated 23 February, 2000 of the Securities and Exchange Commission:

sd/-  
Mohammad Ali Miah  
Company Secretary

Date : July 30, 2009

# Career with Bank Asia

As a part of its expansion program, Bank Asia intends to recruit Experienced Bankers for Dhaka, Chittagong and Sylhet area for the following positions

### Position: Branch Manager

**Rank and Status:** Rank and status will depend on the experience and present position of the applicant.

**Educational Qualification:** Masters in any discipline without any third class.

**Age:** Not over 45 (forty five) years as on July 31, 2009

**Requirements:** Minimum 10 (ten) years of experience in any major commercial bank, out of which minimum 5-6 years as Manager of a large branch preferably AD Branch. Extensive exposure to general banking, trade finance, foreign exchange operations, lending operations and credit management. Experience in SME financing is preferred. Candidates should be articulate, innovative, self-motivated and result-oriented with proven track record of leadership qualities.

### Position: Sub-Manager

**Rank and Status:** Rank and status will depend on the experience and present position of the applicant.

**Educational Qualification:** Masters in any discipline without any third class.

**Age:** Not over 40 (forty) years as on July 31, 2009

**Requirements:** Minimum 8 (eight) years of experience in a large branch of any major commercial bank, with extensive exposure to general banking, trade finance, foreign exchange and credit operations. Experience in SME financing is preferred. Candidate should have analytical skill and leadership quality.

### Position: Credit Officer

**Rank and Status:** Executive Officer (EO)

**Educational Qualification:** Masters in any discipline without any third class.

**Age:** Not over 35 (thirty five) years as on July 31, 2009

**Requirements:** Minimum 6 (six) years of experience, out of which 1 (one) year as Senior Officer in Advance Department of a large branch of any major commercial bank. Fully conversant with appraisal of loan proposals, analysis of financial statements, ratio analysis, credit risk grading techniques, borrower selection process, etc.

**Computer literacy is essential.** Positions are offered for Dhaka, Chittagong and Sylhet area. All the posts carry attractive pay package. Interested candidates are requested to send their applications along with detailed CV and a recent passport size photograph on or before August 13, 2009 at the addresses mentioned below.

#### Applicants for Dhaka Region:

Human Resource Division  
Bank Asia Limited, Corporate Office  
Tea Board Building (1st floor), 111-113 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka

#### Applicants for Chittagong Region:

The Zonal Office  
Bank Asia Limited  
Bank Asia Bhaban (2nd Floor), 39 Agrabad C/A, Chittagong

#### Applicants for Sylhet Region:

Sylhet Main Branch  
Bank Asia Limited  
60 Niloy, Dargah Gate, Sylhet

The name of the post applied for and the area where interested to work should be printed on the top of the envelope. Only short-listed candidates will be called for interview.