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City canals may get life back by March

TAWFIQUE ALI

The parliamentary standing committee on land ministry has set a deadline for the recovery of old canals in Dhaka from grabbers.

"Our target is to recover those canals by March 2010," committee Chairman AKM Mozammel Haq told The Daily Star.

"We will frame either fresh laws or bring amendments to the existing ones, as they might prolong the process," said Haq.

The parliamentary committee also decided to ask the deputy commissioners (DC) concerned to demarcate different rivers of the country by August.

Positions of the old canals will be identified on the basis of Cadastral Survey (CS), State Acquisition (SA) and Revisional Survey (RS) records, he added.

The parliamentary body at a meeting on May 17 instructed the director general (DG) of Directorate of Land Reform and Survey (DLRS) to identify and demarcate 13 canals criss-crossing Dhaka city by the end of July.

The DG on June 16 formed a joint committee comprised of representatives from Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (Wasa), Dhaka City Corporation (DCC), Rajdhani Unnayan Karttripakkha (Rajuk) and Water Development Board.

Dhaka settlement officer and additional deputy commissioner (revenue) of Dhaka are also members of the committee.

Chandranath Basak, director (land records) of Directorate of Land Reform and Survey (DLRS) headed the committee. The committee was given a three-month time to identify and demarcate all the canals.

The committee held its first meeting on July 6. The deadline ends on September 16. The committee is working on a pantograph mapping to show the canals' original and present position, Basak said.

A high-powered committee, formed in 2004, prepared a list of illegal structures built on the city canals.

The joint committee asked the additional deputy commissioner (revenue) of Dhaka to update the list with the help of assistant commissioners (land), Basak said.

According to the CS records, Dhaka

WHOSE FOOTPATH IS IT, ANYWAY?

Hawkers occupy the pavement on Mirpur Road near Dhaka College compelling pedestrians to use the traffic lanes. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: SHAFIQU ALAM

AL lawmaker Shafiqul has to explain his eligibility EC decides to serve notice

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission (EC) has decided to serve a notice upon Awami League (AL) lawmaker Shafiqul Azam Khan, asking him to explain why his parliament membership should not be cancelled on grounds of ineligibility.

Shafiqul, who was elected an MP from Jhenidah-3 constituency on an AL ticket in the recent parliamentary election, was a mayor of Mohehpur municipality at the time of the poll. According to the electoral

Faridpur rape victim underage Confirms medical test

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

The age assertion test of the gang rape victim of Faridpur has found that the victim is aged between 15 and 16, meaning the girl was raped even if she gave her consent.

The findings come to much relief to the victim's family as they fear that they local police seems to believe that the incident isn't exactly a rape case as the girl knew the perpetrators and also was a willing participant.

Following filing of the case, the then Superintendent of Faridpur Police Mizanur Rahman told The Daily Star that the video as seen in the marketed CD suggests the girl was not raped

2 outlaws die in gunfight Top extremist 'held' in India

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Two cadres of the outlawed Gono Mukti Fouz (GMF) were killed in a gun battle between the outlawed party, operatives of the outlawed party Purbo Banglar Communist Party (PBCP-ML) and the police at Purbo Mazampur in Kushtia Wednesday night.

In another development, a top leader of another outlawed party, the Gono Bahini (GB), Obaidul Islam was allegedly arrested in India last night.

The deceased in Kushtia were identified as Sumon Hossain,

Muggers kill one, stab another

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Muggers killed a trader and stabbed another in separate incidents in the capital yesterday while police recovered a body from Tejgaon industrial area.

The deceased poultry trader was identified as Monir Hossain, 30, a resident of Adabar, and the injured vegetable trader was identified as Biplob Khan, a resident of Uttar Bisil of Mirpur.

JAMAL UDDIN MURDER IN CTG Charge-sheeted accused held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, CTG

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested one of the charge-sheeted accused in sensational Jamal Uddin abduction and murder case in the port city yesterday.

The accused, Shahjahan alias Driver Shahjahan, 36, was arrested from remote hilly areas of Kanchan Nagar under Fatikchhari upazila in early morning.

Shahjahan went into hiding in Oman sometime in September 2003 after abducted Jamal Uddin had been killed.

He had returned home fifteen days back before the Rab team arrested him yesterday, said ASP Mohammad Mizanur Rahman

A mobile court confiscates blood bags at a blood bank in Jatrabari in connection with drawing blood from drug addicts, and not having any technicians and blood preservation system.

PHOTO: STAR

Illegal blood bank shut Mobile court fines Tk 4 lakh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A mobile court yesterday shut down an illegal blood bank and transfusion centre and penalised it Tk 4 lakh in the city's Jatrabari area.

The Life Blood and Transfusion Centre, located at Shahid Faruk Sarak, had been carrying out this illegal business for years and without licence and technicians.

The mobile court arrested two employees of the blood bank—Rafiqul Islam, 27, and Kamrul Hasan Rubel, 29—with 35 bags of blood while the owner Firoz Ahmed managed to get away.

During the drive conducted by Rapid Action Battalion (Rab-4),

Food ration for RMG workers starts Minister pledges fresh wage board

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government will announce a fresh minimum wage board soon to ensure better payment for garment workers, said Labour and Employment Minister Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain.

He said the government earlier shelved a previous plan for the new wage board after

OnlinePoll

Do you think there should be investigation into the incidents of extra-judicial punishments by beating and lashing people in the name of Fatwa?

☐ Yes (88.0%)
☐ No (9.2%)
☐ No Comments (2.8%)

Total votes: 1099

TODAY'S POLL

Do you agree with Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) Mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka that there is no corruption in DCC?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

This Friday in the **STAR**

Up close and personal with Professor Muhammad Yunus, features on recognising an independent Kosovo, promoting desi designer brands, a special feature on the hijra community and much more...

The Man who Changed the World
Professor Muhammad Yunus

কুলখানি

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