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# Scrap 5 housing projects, JS body

Recommendation follows failure of 3 real estate companies to meet conditions

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A parliamentary committee yesterday asked the Ministry of Housing and Public Works to scrap approval of five housing projects assigned to three private real estate companies for failing to meet conditions within stipulated timeframe.

The parliamentary standing committee on housing and public works ministry also asked the ministry to take measures and cover wide-spread publicity on the cancellation of those housing projects so that people can be aware of it.

"Officials of the housing ministry told the meeting that they will cancel the approval of the housing projects in and around the city within a day or two," committee member Enamul Haque told The Daily Star after the meeting.

The conditions were set as per the land development rules for private housing projects

(2004), according to the work paper presented at the meeting.

The private companies were issued approval on Oct 21, 2006 provided they met 10 conditions in the contract by September 30, 2008 or face cancellation of permission.

The projects are Sharnali residential project (phase-one) of Swadesh Properties Ltd, revised and extended part of Banasree New Town residential project, revised and extended part of Pallabi (phase-two) of Goran-Chatbari project and amended project of the metropolitan of Rampura extension (Mohanagar-Mayakunja) residential project of Eastern Housing Ltd and revised and extended part of Bashundhara residential project (Phase-I) of the East West Property Development, said a press release issued by the parliament secretariat.

Some of the conditions were that the companies would not obstruct the water outlet,

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# Amended PRSP placed in JS

Tk 3,108b strategy prioritises 5 areas

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday placed in parliament a draft of the amended second Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) with an estimated expenditure of Tk 3,108 billion to achieve the goals and targets set out in the modified document.

Maintenance of macroeconomic stability and control over commodity price hike in the face of the present global economic recession, effective actions against corruption, ensuring adequacy of power and energy, elimination of poverty and inequality and establishment of good governance have been identified as five

priority areas in the document.

The government has identified the priority areas for medium action in light of the long-term vision presented by the Awami League before the December 29 parliamentary election.

The amended PRSP titled "Steps towards Change: National Strategy for Accelerated Poverty Reduction- II," has been proposed for implementation during FY 2009-2011.

Planning Minister Air Vice Marshal (ret'd) AK Khandker placed the draft for holding discussions on it in the House, as the government wants to finalise the paper by next December.

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## Del Potro dethrones Federer

AFP, New York

Juan Martin del Potro dethroned five-time defending champion Roger Federer 3-6, 7-6 (7/5), 4-6, 7-6 (7/4), 6-2 to win the US Open on Monday, ending an era to win in his first Grand Slam final.

The shocker made del Potro only the second South American to win the US Open men's crown, after countryman Guillermo Vilas in 1977, denying Swiss world number one Federer a 16th career Slam crown.

"I don't have words to explain how I feel," a tearful del Potro said, noting that a day after the day he called the greatest of his life for making the final, he felt "Much better".

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## Govt to extend holiday if Eid on Sept 22

UNB, Dhaka

The government, by an executive order, has extended the Eid vacation by a day up to September 23 if Eid-ul-Fitr is celebrated on September 22.

An official announcement yesterday said, "The earlier declared holiday from September 20-22 will remain unchanged if Eid-ul-Fitr is celebrated on September 21."



As part of aiding control of nearly collapsed traffic system in the city, a military police stops a private car in front of the police box at Khamarbari, Framgate, yesterday while it was taking U-turn violating the traffic rules.

PHOTO: STAR

## Army called out to control city traffic

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Members of armed forces were deployed yesterday at four city points in aid of traffic police in controlling nearly collapsed traffic system in the capital.

However, hardly any improvements in traffic congestion could be witnessed and long queues of stranded vehicles were seen everywhere on the roads, much to the sufferings of city dwellers.

While travelling yesterday, The Daily Star correspondents witnessed huge tailbacks in Saidabad, Jatrabari, Gulistan, Motijheel, Kamalapur, Paltan, Shantinagar, Malibagh, Maghbazar, Shahbagh, Dhanmondi and Science Laboratory areas.

"I started from Uttara for Gabtoli to catch a bus to go to Satkhira two hours before it was scheduled for departure, but it took more than two hours to reach there," said Hossain Biswas from Satkhira.

"I would have missed the bus if it had not been delayed

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# Stern action if MPs involved in wrongdoings

Hasina warns at ALPP meeting

HASAN JAHID TUSHER

Sheikh Hasina yesterday warned her party lawmakers of stern action if they patronise tender manipulation and extortion, which had apparently tainted the image of the eight-month-old Awami League government.

The prime minister asked her party men not to lord over the civil administration, especially at the secretariat, and behave themselves to earn people's trust.

The prime minister's directions came at a meeting of the Awami League Parliamentary Party in the ruling party's conference room at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban. The meeting reviewed the country's latest political and socio-economic situation.

While putting forward the directions Hasina did not allow her security personnel and other staff inside the conference room where the ruling party lawmakers pointed out a myriad of problems they are facing, highly placed sources told The Daily Star.

Hasina said many party lawmakers are "unlawfully" putting pressure on bureaucrats to implement different development projects of the government, which is not acceptable, said the meeting sources.

On rampant extortion and tender manipulation in the country she said none would be spared if involved in such unlawful practices, AL lawmaker Aslamul Haque Aslam told The Daily Star quoting Hasina as saying.

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## OnlinePoll

Do you think exemplary punishment should be meted out to the forest department officials for letting influential people fell 30,000 trees in Teknaf beach of Cox's Bazar?

- Yes (93.7%)
- No (5.1%)
- No Comments (1.2%)

Total votes: 1010

## TODAY'S POLL

Do you think it is a good decision to deploy the army to tackle the traffic congestion in the capital?

Please cast your vote at [www.thedailystar.net](http://www.thedailystar.net)

## Sehri, Iftar timings

Ramadan	Sept	Sehri	Iftar
25	16		7-05
26	17	5-26	7-04
27	18	5-26	7-03

## Prayer Timing

September 16		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-25	5-35
Zohr	1-45	2-15
Asr	5-30	5-45
Maghrib	7-05	7-15
Esha	8-45	9-15

Source: Islamic Foundation



## Rajshahi Zoo otter electrocuted

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

An otter (udbiral) was electrocuted inside its cage at Rajshahi Central Zoo yesterday due to alleged negligence of the zoo authorities.

The 13-year-old male otter died instantly as it came in touch with a falling power-line. Its body was taken out from the cage an hour later, zoo sources said.

"The loosened electrical line fell over the cage at around 9:30am when crows sat on the line, and the otter was trying to chew it," said Farhad Uddin, veterinary surgeon of Rajshahi City Corporation (RCC) that operates the zoo.

M Sadekul Islam, an RCC official and in-charge of the zoo, acknowledged that RCC's electricity department is

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The stunned female otter stopped its acrobatic movement as her male partner was electrocuted at Rajshahi Central Zoo yesterday after a live wire fell onto their cage.

PHOTO: STAR

## Carjacker beaten to death in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A mob foiled a carjacking attempt of three criminals after beating a carjacker to death and injuring another critically in the capital's Pallabi on Monday night.

The deceased was identified as Abdul Halim, 25, while the injured Muktar Hossain, 23, was undergoing treatment at Dhaka Medical College and Hospital (DMCH).

Pallabi police said a gang of three criminals intercepted a private car and tried to push its driver out of the vehicle at

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## Pak jets pound militant hideout

5 killed; cops foil militant attack on oil terminal

AP, AFP, Khari Karachi

Fighter jets pounded suspected militant hide-outs yesterday and killed five insurgents in a tribal region where the Pakistani military declared victory over insurgents six months ago following an offensive, an official said.

The bombings occurred in the Salarzai area of the northwest Bajur tribal region, local government official Zahid Khan said.

Pakistan's army launched an intense offensive that left more than 1,700 alleged militants dead in Bajur just over a year ago. In February, the military said it had defeated al-Qaeda and Taliban fighters there, but pockets of resistance remain.

Pakistan is in the midst of multiple army operations in against militants in its northwest regions bordering

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## India fails to curb Maoist insurgency

Says Manmohan

AFP, New Delhi

India is failing to curb a growing Maoist insurgency, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said yesterday, while also warning of a "worrisome" upswing in cross-border infiltration by Pakistan-based militants.

Singh told a meeting of top police officials from around the country that Maoist rebels posed the greatest threat to India's internal security and that a new strategy was required to deal with the problem.

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## ঢাকা সিটি কর্পোরেশন, ঢাকা

আপনার পরিবেশ সুন্দর ও পরিচ্ছন্ন রাখুন

আপনার শিশুকে টিকা দিন

প্রিয়জনকে বই উপহার দিন

## ঢাকা মহানগরী এলাকার পুকুর/ডোবা/ঝিল/জলাশয়ের কচুরীপানা অপসারণ ও পরিষ্কার রাখা সংক্রান্ত জরুরী বিজ্ঞপ্তি

লক্ষ্য করা যাচ্ছে যে, ঢাকা সিটি কর্পোরেশন এলাকার মধ্যে ব্যক্তিগত মালিকানাধীন/বিভিন্ন সংস্থা/প্রতিষ্ঠানের অধীনস্থ ডোবা/পুকুর/ঝিল/জলাশয় খাল কচুরীপানাপূর্ণ ও অপরিচ্ছন্ন অবস্থায় থাকে। এগুলো মশক প্রজননের বিরাট উৎস। মশক প্রজননস্থল এসব খাল, ডোবা, জলাশয়, পুকুর কচুরীপানাপূর্ণ ও অপরিচ্ছন্ন অবস্থায় মশার ঔষধ স্প্রে/লার্ভিসাইডিং/এডাল্টিসাইডিং করা হলেও মশক নিধনে কার্যকরী সুফল পাওয়া যায় না। এ কারণে নগরবাসীকে মশার উপদ্রব থেকে রক্ষাকল্পে ব্যক্তি মালিকানাধীন ও সরকারি/বেসরকারি বিভিন্ন সংস্থার অধীনস্থ ডোবা, খাল, পুকুর, জলাশয়ের কচুরীপানা অবিলম্বে অপসারণসহ পরিষ্কার রাখার জন্য সংশ্লিষ্ট ব্যক্তি/সংস্থা/প্রতিষ্ঠানের প্রতি অনুরোধ জানানো যাচ্ছে। নগরীর অভ্যন্তরস্থ এসব মশক প্রজনন কেন্দ্র অপরিচ্ছন্ন রাখা প্রচলিত আইনে দণ্ডনীয় অপরাধ। কোন ব্যক্তি/সংস্থা/প্রতিষ্ঠান স্ব-স্ব অধীনস্থ পুকুর, ডোবা, ঝিল, জলাশয় পরিষ্কার করতে অপারগ হলে তা ডিসিসিকে লিখিতভাবে জানাতে এবং এগুলো পরিষ্কারকরণে উপযুক্ত ব্যয় পরিশোধ সাপেক্ষে ডিসিসি'র সহযোগিতা গ্রহণ করতে পারবেন। কোন ব্যক্তি/সংস্থা একাজে অনীহা প্রদর্শন করলে/অপারগ হলে সংশ্লিষ্ট ব্যক্তি/প্রতিষ্ঠান/সংস্থাধীন এসব স্থান/সম্পত্তি ডিসিসি'র পক্ষ থেকে অধিগ্রহণ করা হতে পারে। নাগরিক স্বাচ্ছন্দ্য বজায় রাখতে ডিসিসি'র এ প্রচেষ্টাকে সফল করতে সম্মানিত নগরবাসীসহ সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলকে এগিয়ে আসার জন্য বিশেষভাবে অনুরোধ জানানো হচ্ছে।

DCC/PRD/115/2009-2010  
GD-4220

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ঢাকা সিটি কর্পোরেশন