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Demolition goes in vain

Car spaces not created as demolished shops rebuilt in no time

TAWFIQUE ALI

Attempt by Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha (Rajuk) to retrieve the city's parking spaces during the ongoing drive has fallen flat, as it had happened every time in the past.

Each and every evicted illegal occupant of designated car parking spaces at business centres has come back to their earlier position just within a week of demolition, proving the futility of government effort.

Occupants of basement and ground-floor parking spaces at various commercial centres are back with immaculate reconstruction of demolished structures to the utter frustration of city dwellers.

"Rajuk's eviction drives seem ridiculous, as the deviant building owners rebuild and set up unauthorised structures just within a few days of demolition," said Abul Bashar, a passerby, during an eviction drive in Dhanmondi on Mirpur Road on October 13.

"The shop owners started rebuilding the demolished structures just the day Rajuk team had knocked it down and left the scene," said a roadside vendor citing a drive at Baghdad Plaza near Mirpur-1 intersection on October 25.

Shahana Muktadir, a housewife in Mirpur, "I have never seen any eviction drive to have deterred the illegal occupants of parking spaces, as they come

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This recent photo of Probal Community Centre on Rokeya Sarani in Mirpur tells nothing about the drive Rajuk carried out on October 26, inset, to retrieve car parking space on its ground floor. The building has come back to its earlier shape proving failure of the whole exercise.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ



Practice prevails over provision

Cabinet, not JS bodies, approving draft bills

SHAKHAWAT LITON

The constitution empowers the parliamentary standing committees to examine draft bills before placing them in parliament to enact laws but successive governments have not followed the provision.

The common practice is that the cabinet approves the draft bills or any legislative proposals, which are placed in the House as bills later for turning them into laws.

The bills are sent to the parliamentary standing committees for scrutiny only after they are placed in parliament. But on

the functions of the committees, article 76 (2) (a) of the constitution says the parliamentary standing committees are to examine the draft bills and other legislative proposals.

The committees can do little in determining the necessity of the bills as ministers, who place the bills, obtain permission from the House to specify timeframe for the committees to submit scrutiny reports to parliament clearing the way for their passage, parliamentary affairs experts observed.

The parliaments have passed over 1,000 bills, but none was sent to the com-

mittees before placing them in parliament.

A document of the parliament secretariat shows 154 bills were passed in first parliament, 65 in second, 39 in third, 142 in fourth, 173 in fifth, one in sixth, 191 in seventh, 185 in eighth while 66 bills have been passed in the current ninth parliament.

However, the parliamentary standing committee on law, justice and parliamentary affairs has moved to enforce the constitutional provision to ensure parliament's effective role in enactment of law.

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27TH BCS EXAM Govt asked to appoint 197 from 1st viva

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) yesterday directed the government in a verdict to appoint 197 candidates, who qualified the first viva voce for 27th Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) examination, to the services within three months.

The court also instructed the government to give them seniority according to the

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New nat'l pay scale announced

52pc pay rise, separate scale for judiciary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government announced a 52 percent increase, on average, in the basic salary of the public servants in the seventh national pay scale and fixed the highest salary at Tk 40,000 and the minimum at Tk 4,100.

After the cabinet approved the new pay scale yesterday Finance Minister Abul Maal Abdul

Muhith announced it in the evening at a crowded press briefing at the Prime Minister's Office.

Separate pay scales for the judicial service has been announced for the first time this year as the judiciary was separated from the executive during the last caretaker government.

Replying to a query he said there would be

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Forex reserve at all-time high

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The forex reserve crossed \$10 billion yesterday, breaking all previous records in Bangladesh.

A fund of \$649.29 million received from the ADB on the same day has helped push the amount to this level.

Meanwhile, remittances were increasing in the last few months which is another reason behind the surge.

MORE IN STAR BUSINESS

Uphold deaths

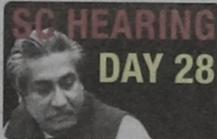
State ends submission, says 'no' to mercy

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

Chief state counsel of Bangabandhu assassination case advocate Anisul Huq yesterday appealed to the Supreme Court to uphold the death sentence of the convicts, saying there is no scope for mercy as their offence was proved beyond doubt.

Meanwhile, barrister Abdullah-al Mamun, counsel for convicts Bazlul Huda and AKM Mohiuddin, prayed to the court to

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TOXIC PARACETAMOL CASE

None of 3 accused shows up in court

Cops ordered to report their whereabouts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two of Adflame Pharmaceutical's directors and one of its managers, charged with adulteration of paracetamol syrup 17 years ago, did not appear before the Dhaka Drug Court yesterday despite having been summoned.

The judge, disappointed by the failure of police to provide any report to the court regarding their whereabouts, issued a fresh summon

notice against the accused, and threatened to take 'departmental action' against the officer-in-charge of New Market police station at the next hearing on November 20, if he then fails to produce any report.

On being informed by a Daily Star reporter recently that the High Court had vacated the stay order on proceedings of the Adflame case two years earlier, the court issued summons to

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BNP writes letter after rejoinder

Our reply

BNP sent a rejoinder regarding our report headlined "Aug 21 Attack on Hasina, AL Rally: It was Hawa Bhaban Plot" published on October 27. The Daily Star published the rejoinder along with a reply on November 1. In response to our reply, BNP Secretary General Khondkar Delwar Hossain sent another letter to the editor. We publish full text of the letter and our response below:

FULL TEXT OF BNP'S LETTER

(Paragraphs numbered by us)

1. We would like to thank you for printing our rejoinder in your issue of 1st November 2009 in full. However, your response has disappointed us.

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