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## Govt firm on DAP to save Dhaka City

Nobody can foil its implementation, says Mannan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Government will not bow down to any force while implementing the detailed area plan (DAP) of Dhaka city, said Abdul Mannan Khan, state minister for housing and public works.

But the genuine grievance of an affected person should be taken into consideration, Mannan said, adding that DAP will be implemented accordingly to save the capital from environmental and drainage disaster.

He was speaking at a roundtable on "Role of building construction rules in making Dhaka city liveable" organised by Institute of Architects Bangladesh (IAB) and Mukto Akash, a magazine on engineering, architecture and housing issues.

The move of greedy individuals to grab wetlands and accumulate wealth by housing business will be thwarted, said the minister.

"No arable land will be

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## EVICCTIONS IN VAIN

New structures have been built filling the western end of Gulshan-Banani Lake. Several government attempts in the last few months to evict the grabbers apparently have not achieved desired results.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON



## DC conference begins today

PM to open 3-day meet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A three-day conference of deputy commissioners (DC) begins in the capital today.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will inaugurate the conference at the International Conference Centre in Prime Minister's Office (PMO) at 10:00am. Divisional commissioners will also attend the conference.

The PM is expected to direct the DCs about implementation of various development projects and government policies. The DCs will also talk on various issues under their jurisdictions.

After the inaugural session, the conference will begin at the Cabinet Division of the Secretariat at 3:00pm.

"Last week, the premier asked the secretaries to take steps so that the price of essentials does not hike during Ramadan. She also directed them about timely implementation of the projects of different ministries. Since DCs are the field level officers, they will be given necessary instructions to execute the prime minister's

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## INT'L CRIMES TRIBUNAL

# Prosecution gets rolling for trial

May seek today warrants against Jamaat leaders

JULFIKAR ALI MANIK and ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The International Crimes Tribunal is likely to start proceedings today as the prosecution is set to file a petition with the court seeking direction to show some detained top Jamaat leaders arrested on charges of committing war crimes.

Reliable sources say the prosecution initially would submit the petition against five detained top Jamaat leaders on the basis of sufficient allegations against them of committing genocide and crimes against humanity and peace during the Liberation War.

The five leaders are Jamaat chief Motiur Rahman Nizami, Secretary General Ali Ahsan Muhammad Mojaheed, Nayeb-e Ameer Delwar Hossain Sayeede and senior assistant secretaries general Muhammad Qamaruzzaman and Abdul Quader Mollah.

Sources involved in the process of preparing

the petition told The Daily Star an investigation into the alleged offences is underway against the five.

They added as per the International Tribunal Act and its rules, the prosecution can ask for direction from this court to arrest such alleged criminals during investigation.

The section 11(5) of the Act says any member of the Tribunal will have the power to direct or issue arrest warrant or commit to custody, and authorise the continued detention in custody of any person charged with any crimes mentioned in the law.

Speaking anonymously, a member of the prosecution formed under the Act told The Daily Star, "We will seek arrest or detention order based on specific allegations against them of committing genocide, crimes against humanity, rape, arson and loot during the Liberation war in 1971."

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## CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT

# JS body leaders still expect BNP's positive response

RASHIDUL HASAN

If the BNP nominates a lawmaker for the parliamentary special committee on constitution amendment, the committee will send an invitation to that legislator to join the body's proceedings.

The legislator's name would be formally included in the committee once parliament is in session and the committee is reconstituted.

If needed, a special session of Jatiya Sangsad will be called to reconstitute the committee incorporating the opposition lawmaker's name, the chair and co-chair of the committee told The Daily Star.

A day after the formation of the special committee, Prime

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## Dr Kamal for national consensus

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Public opinion should be taken to incorporate their wishes in the constitution and to reach a national consensus on amending the sacred document, said Dr Kamal Hossain, one of the principal authors of the Constitution of Bangladesh.

"It is not a matter to be done in haste. The 5th Amendment was done in a hurry under martial law ordinance which the people didn't want so the High Court in its historic verdict in 2005 cancelled it," he said in Chittagong yesterday.

"We should be delighted

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## FIGHTING POVERTY

# Bangladesh ahead of India, Nepal

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

Bangladesh has scored better than India and Nepal in UNDP's Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) of five South Asian countries.

Among 104 countries, Bangladesh ranked 73. India ranked 74, Nepal 82, Pakistan 70, Sri Lanka 32 in the MPI released on July 15.

The 10 indicators in MPI are grouped into three equally weighted dimensions--health (child mortality and nutrition), education (years of schooling and child enrolment), and standard of living (electricity, drinking water, sanitation, flooring, cooking fuel, and assets).

The Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) of Oxford University and the Human Development Report Office of UNDP jointly prepared the MPI.

On Bangladesh, the report finds that 57.8 percent of its population were deprived of at least 30 percent of the set of 10 indicators in MPI, and on an average they were deprived of 50.4

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