METROPOLITAN

DHAKA ELEVATED EXPRESSWAY Proposals sought from 4 bidders

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The communications ministry yesterday informed the cabinet that it has sought proposals from four prequalified bidders to build the 21km long Dhaka Elevated Expressway from Shahjalal International Airport to Demra.

The government aims at completing construction work of the expressway within December 2013.

The ministry early last month issued the Request for Proposal (RFP) to these four companies Italian-Thai Development Company (Italy-Thailand), Sikder Real Estate-KCC JV (Bangladesh-Korea), Gammon Infrastructure Projects Ltd-Boaygus Travaux Publics SA Consortium (India-France) and China Railway International Ltd (China).

ing bid evaluation and sign agreement with the best bidder by December this year.

However, the primarily estimated cost of 2.5 billion dollars for the pro-

ject has been criticised as being too high and experts say it should cost around half a billion dollars. The four-lane

expressway would be built by mainly using land owned by the government -- especially Bangladesh Railway. There will be minimal need to acquire fresh land for this expressway that offers scope for expansion to Ramna and Mirpur.

This route would save at least one

The government aims at complet- hour travel time between the airport and Demra and will provide immediate relief to the majority traffic congestion of central Dhaka.

At the Mohakhali flyover, the expressway would run along the

median of Shaheed The government aims at Tazuddin Road through the completing construction Tejgaon Industrial Area. After crosswork of the expressway ing the creek, the within December 2013. expressway would rejoin the rail

> Syedabad Road. Along Syedabad Road, the expressway would be located between the road and the rail corridor reducing the

interaction with the Khilgaon flyover. The expressway could then continue along the rail corridor to the Kamalapur Railway Station and container terminal. South of Kamalapur Station, the expressway curves to the east passing south of Kamalapur Stadium. The route then passes through the water catchment area and Syedabad Water Treatment Plant, turns south and connects with Dhaka-Chittagong Highway.

While this expressway route would not link places like Dhanmondi or Mohammadpur, it proposes two additional extensions. The first one is corridor through a 1.8 km long extension through the Moghbazar to then join up with Tejgaon industrial area to Farmgate. The second one is 3.4 km long starting near Panthapath and traversing the water catchment area south of Hotel Sonargaon, then following the Sonargaon Road from New Eskaton9 Road to Buet.

Nokia C3-00

Nokia C3-00

Dhaka Development Forum forms a human chain in front of the National Press Club in the city yesterday demanding steps to stop stalking.

MIZANUR'S DEATH

Punishment to stalkers demanded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Different organisations yesterday demanded exemplary punishment to the stalkers who killed Mizanur Rashid, under Speedy Trial Act.

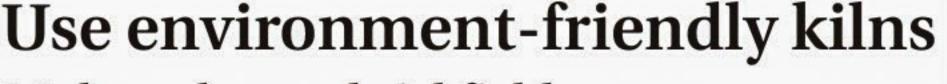
They also urged the prime minister for the permanent bearing of expenses for Mizanur's family, says a press release.

The demands were made at a human chain and demonstration programme organised by Steps Towards Development and Dhaka Development Forum in front of the National Press Club in the city yesterday.

Kanya Shishu Advocacy Forum and representatives from different educational institutions took part in the programme.

Mizanur, a chemistry teacher of Lokmanpur College in Bagatipara upazila of the district, was attacked and injured allegedly by stalkers on October 12 in Natore.

He succumbed to his injuries on October 20. The organisations will hold weeklong demonstration and human chain programmes and submit memorandum to the offices of deputy commissioners in 16 districts of the country to protest Mizanur's killing.



Mahmud urges brickfield owners

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

State Minister for Environment and Forest Dr Hasan Mahmud yesterday called upon the brickfield owners to use environment friendly technology in manufacturing bricks to save the country's environment.

"It is not possible for the government alone to reduce the environmental pollution and needs your cooperation to do so," he said while addressing the inaugural ceremony of a work- year." shop as the chief guest at Cirdap in the city.

The ministry and Department of Environment jointly organised the programme to encourage brickfield owners to adopt modern brick kiln technology.

Different aspects of environment friendly technologies including Hybrid Hoffman Kiln, Jig Jag Kiln and Vertical Kiln were presented at the workshop.

Hasan said the government would give clearance certificates from now on to owners who set up environment friendly technologies at brickfields.

Mentioning the gazette notification that was circulated on September 20, he said, "The owners will have to transform their brick kiln with modern technology within two years from the circulation date. Those who have already got clearance certificates may renew it after one

President of Brickfield Owners Association Mijanur Rahman Babul urged the state minister to extend the deadline to three years.

He also sought low rate credit facility from the government for the setting up of such brick

Monwar Islam, director general of DoE and Dr Mihir Kanti Majumder, secretary of the ministry, addressed the programme.



After shutting down their shops at Chandni Chowk market in the city yesterday, owners and employees stage a demonstration there demanding an immediate initiative to beef up security in the market.

KERANIGANJ TRIPLE MURDER

Selim confesses crime

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

OC added.

before the incident.

Selim Mallik confessed to the killings of his mother, son and a nephew in Madaripur village under Kalindi union of city's Keraniganj before a Dhaka court yesterday.

In his confessional statement before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's court, Selim, 28, narrated why and how he killed his mother Shahida Begum Moyna, 45, five-year old nephew Ahad and his (Selim's) son Salman, 5, on Monday.

He said he was compelled to kill his mother who had refused

to give him Tk 60,000 that he demanded. Keraniganj police station officer-in-charge Mohammad

Asaduzzaman said Selim admitted that he sold the seven tolas of gold that he looted from his mother to a gold shop for Tk 60,000 at Tantibazar. They recovered from a bush in a nearby village the shirt, pants and other clothes that Selim used during the killings, the

Selim hacked his mother and nephew Ahad with a kitchen knife leaving them dead on the spot while his son Salman died

a day after the incident. During the killing, Selim's wife Rima, a nine-month pregnant woman, was staying at her father's house at a nearby

Salman was taken back to Moyna from his mother a night

CORRUPTION CASE

HC scraps 13-yr jail sentence against Maya

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) yesterday scrapped the 13-year jail sentence against former Awami League state minister Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya in a corruption case filed by the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC).

The ACC filed the case against Maya with Sutrapur Police Station on June 13 in 2007 on charge of amassing illegal wealth worth Tk 29 lakh and concealing information about it.

A special court on February 14, 2008 sentenced him to 13 years' imprisonment in the case.

Maya filed an appeal with the HC challenging the special court's verdict on May 25, 2009.

After hearing the appeal, an HC bench of Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain and Justice Gobinda Chandra Tagore yesterday acquitted Maya of the corruption charges and cancelled his conviction.



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