

TK 915CR CCC BUDGET Waterlogging, edn get priority

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The Chittagong City Corporation yesterday passed a budget of over Tk 915.15 crore for the fiscal year 2011-12, with particular emphasis on education and health sectors and waterlogging problem.

Mayor Manjur Alami placed the proposal of the budget, which actually stands at Tk 915.15,61,000, in a budget session at Theatre Institute Chittagong.

The budgetary allocations include Tk 126.59 crore for salary and wages of staff, Tk 25.45 crore for repair and maintenance works, Tk 27 crore for power, fuel, and water management, and Tk 6.16 crore for welfare activities.

At the budget session, the mayor also placed a revised budget worth over Tk 325.68 crore for the 2010-11 fiscal year.

Manjur Alami said he has submitted some proposals of different projects to the ministry concerned and asked for approving and allocating money for the projects.

These include Tk 344 crore for constructing, repairing, and management of roads, footpaths, and park; Tk 100 crore for development of tourism facilities in Patenga coastal belt; Tk 25 crore for improvement of garbage disposal system; Tk 1,500 crore for construction of a flyover from Dewan Hat intersection to Patenga Shah Amanat International Airport; and Tk 2,500 crore for setting up a coal-based power station with 500-megawatt production capacity.

The mayor said the CCC has yet to create new sources of income but it will now earn more holding taxes than the previous fiscal year, as the number of houses and buildings has increased by about 20 thousands in the port city.



Bangladesh Indigenous Lawyers' Association forms a human chain in front of Jatiya Press Club in the city yesterday demanding constitutional recognition to the indigenous people.

PHOTO: STAR

Dhaka for greater ties among OIC states

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Foreign Minister Dipu Moni yesterday called for advancing peace and development through greater cooperation among the OIC member states based on the ideals of compassion, justice, dignity, tolerance and unity.

She made the call while addressing the Council of Foreign Ministers of the 57-member Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) in Astana, the capital of Kazakhstan.

Dipu Moni, in her statement at the 38th session of the council, also stressed the need for enhancing intra-OIC trade and reducing resource gap between the developed and developing countries.

In the context of the ongoing political turmoil in some OIC countries in the Middle-East and North Africa, she emphasised meeting the legitimate needs of the people by ensuring good governance and socio-economic development.

The foreign minister urged the international

community, particularly the Quartet, to force Israel to stop its unlawful activities and create an atmosphere to establish an independent state of Palestine on its pre-1967 borders with Jerusalem as the capital in the interest of world peace and security.

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During the meeting, she handed over the Instrument of Ratification of the TPS-OIC Rules of Origin to the secretary general. The Trade Preferential System (TPS) of the OIC came into force with Bangladesh's ratification of this protocol. With

the Trade Preferential System and related protocols in force, the intra-OIC trade is now expected to gain momentum, said a press release.

The meeting also provided the opportunity for Bangladesh to engage the OIC states in addressing the adverse impact of climate change.

On the sideline of the meeting, a special committee scrutinised the scope of cooperation among member states in the area of climate change on the basis of a concept paper submitted by Bangladesh.

Dipu Moni also held bilateral meetings with Malaysian and Oman foreign ministers and requested them for importing more manpower from Bangladesh and investment in Bangladesh in energy, tourism and agro-based industry sectors.

She also called on Australian Foreign Minister Kevin Rudd, British Cabinet Minister Baroness Sayeeda Warsi, and the OIC secretary general and dwelled on bilateral and international matters of common concern.

Cheholum

METRO DESK

Cheholum of Ramisa Khatun, mother of journalist Mahtab Uddin, will be held today, says a press release.

On the occasion, qurankhwan, doa mahfil and destitute feeding programme will be held at her Mirpur-14 residence in the city after Zohr prayers.

She passed away at her Mirpur residence on May 21 due to cancer at the age of 90.

Relatives and well-wishers are requested to attend the programmes and pray for salvation of the departed soul.

CHANGES TO CHARTER Shujan for meaningful political dialogue

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government should withdraw the constitution amendment bill placed in parliament and initiate meaningful talks with the opposition party, demanded Shushashoner Janney Nagorik (Shujan) yesterday.

The platform for civil society members expressed their grave concern over the government's "impulsive" decision to amend the constitution for scrapping the caretaker government system.

"The constitution is a national asset and its amendment should be made on the basis of national consensus. It is not a document formulated for a person or special group," said the press release.

Shujan also urged the opposition to join the parliament to begin dialogue with the government over the issue of constitution amendment. "This problem cannot be solved on the streets," it said.

Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Sirajul Islam, program manager of ATN Bangla, passed away at the city's Apollo Hospital yesterday at the age of 68, says a press release.

He left behind his wife, two daughters and grandchildren.

His first and second namaz-e-janaza were held in front of ATN Bangla office and BTV Bhaban at Rampura in the city.

He will be buried at his family graveyard at Aguniapara village in Jhenaidah after third namaz-e-janaza today.



Chief of Army Staff Gen Mohammed Abdul Mubeen calls on President Zillur Rahman at Bangabhaban in the city yesterday.

PHOTO: PID

Young man crushed under train's wheels

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An unidentified youth was crushed under the wheels of a train near Jurain level crossing in the city about 5:00 pm yesterday.

Identity of the deceased aged around 26 could not be known immediately, police said.

Quoting witnesses, police said the man did not leave the railway track even after the train played whistle repeatedly.

The body was sent to Dhaka Medical College Morgue for autopsy, police added.

Tk 277.29cr DU budget announced

DU CORRESPONDENT

The Dhaka University authorities yesterday announced a budget of Tk 277.29 crore for the 2011-12 fiscal year with a deficit of Tk 23.89 crore.

DU Treasurer Prof Dr Mizanur Rahman placed the budget at the two-day Senate Session at Nabab Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Bhaban auditorium.

Vice-chancellor and Chairman of the Senate Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique chaired the session participated by the members of the senate. The proposed budget will be approved today.

Speaking on the session, Prof Mizanur blamed the deficit on additional allocations for transport facilities.

The budget's Tk 222.40 crore will come from the University Grants Commission (UGC) as government grant while the rest Tk 31 crore will be from the internal income of the university.

About Tk 220.01 crore, which is 79.34 percent of the budget, will be spent for salary and pension of teachers, officers, and employees.

The proposed budget was placed in the finance committee on June 11 and was approved by the DU syndicate on 23 June.

Meanwhile, BNP-Jamaat backed "white-panel" teachers of the university walked out the session for two minutes.

DHAKA TODAY

Discussion

Dhaka Ahsania Mission will hold a discussion. Venue: House No-19, Road No-12, Dhanmondi, Time: 4:00pm.

Seminar

Independent University, Bangladesh will arrange a seminar. Venue: IUB campus, Bashundhara, Time: 11:00am.

Convocation

University of Science and Technology Chittagong will organise its grand convocation. Venue: Bangabandhu International Conference Centre, Time: 10:30am.

Seminar

Bangladesh Space Research & Remote Sensing Organisation will hold a national seminar. Venue: Sparso auditorium, Agargaon, Time: 12:30pm.

Meeting

Amra Mukti Joddha Santan will hold a meeting. Venue: Dhaka Reporters Unity, Time: 10:00am.

Dialogue

Brac Business School will organise a dialogue. Venue: Brac University, Mohakali, Time: 3:30pm.

Roundtable

Bangladesh Jatiyatobabadi Muktijuddher Projonmo will arrange

Road crashes kill 4

METRO DESK

Four people were killed in separate road accidents in Dhaka city and Sathkira yesterday.

Our staff correspondent reports: Three people including a six-year-old girl were killed in two separate road accidents in the city yesterday.

The minor girl Jannatul Ferdous Upoma, of Golapbagh of Jatrabari, was killed on the spot when a CNG driven three-wheeler hit her a while she was crossing road with her father around 12:30pm in Golapbagh Biswa Road area of Jatrabari.

Agitating locals blockaded the road for about 15 minutes following the accident, said police.

Police seized the three-wheeler though its driver managed to escape, police added.

Meanwhile, two unidentified youths, aged around 20 and 30, were killed on the spot when two chasing buses of Choice Paribahan and United Paribahan ran them over while they were walking on the road near footpath of the Roads and Highways Department office at Ramna. Locals vandalized the buses.

Our Sathkira correspondent says: A truck driver was killed as the truck dashed a tree on Sathkira-Kaliganj road in Parulia cattle market area of Debhata upazila yesterday.

The deceased is Lablu Sardar, 35, son of Tasir Uddin Sardar, of village Digang in Kalaroa upazila.

Our correspondent from Dinajpur adds: Wife of an official of The Daily Star received minor injuries and their private car was damaged badly in a road accident on Dinajpur-Bogra Highway at Bolorampur (Rangamati area) in Phulbari upazila on Tuesday noon.

Selim Shamsul Huda Chowdhury, general manager (production and events), along with his wife Nargis Chowdhury was returning to Dhaka from the district driving his private car.

He was forced to drive the car off the highway and his vehicle crashed into a roadside tree, as two passenger buses chasing each other were coming from opposite direction occupying the road at 12:30pm, said witnesses.

Local people rescued them and took them to Phulbari town where his wife was given first aid. Selim Chowdhury remained unhurt.

Reforms in civil service hailed

BSS, Dhaka

Speakers at a view exchange meeting yesterday welcomed the government initiative to reform the civil service, saying that the draft Civil Service Act 2010 available on the website was done without discussion with all stakeholders.

The meeting was held at Jatiya Press Club in the city.

They suggested formation of a commission to be headed by a public representative to redraft the law taking into consideration various recommendations for reorganisation of the civil service.

Engineer M Nru Huda, IEB President and Rajuk chairman, presided over the meeting while Dr Shorifuddin Ahmed, secretary general of BMA, read out the keynote paper.

Dr Mostafa Jalal Mohiuddin MP, Agriculturalist Abdul Mannan MP, Shawkat Momin Shahjahan MP, Engineer Fazlul Azim MP, KIB Secretary General AFM Bahauddin Nasim and IEB General Secretary Engineer Abdus Sabur spoke on the occasion.



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