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Housing project on reserved hill

BTCL microwave station and environment in Cox's Bazar under serious threat

A CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

A local influential man is constructing a housing settlement cutting a reserved hill at Kolatoli near Cox's Bazar sea beach, and is planning to set up a residential hotel there.

The housing project poses a serious risk of collapse of a BTCL microwave station that stands on the hilltop, BTCL officials said.

Mujibur Rahman of Pekua upazila of the district forcibly took possession of 1.25 acres of khas land of the hill by the bypass road, police and locals said.

He has already set up 16 tin-roof houses, levelling the hilltop on the west-

ern side of the microwave station. In addition, he razed a major portion of the 100-foot high hill to construct a five-star hotel.

Contacted yesterday, Mujibur Rahman told The Daily Star he was unaware that it was a reserved area. "I have bought the land on the hill from some brokers and planned to build a five star hotel," he claimed.

However, a Cox's Bazar court, in a ruling said the documents he produced before the court were fake.

Mujibur said he appealed against the ruling, and that hearing of the appeal is pending.

District police superintendent Selim

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PHOTO: STAR

Labourers of a land grabber level a reserved hillside beside the bypass road near Kolatoli in Cox's Bazar to make room for a five-star hotel. Inset, the district deputy commissioner along with an official witnesses another unauthorised settlement of the land grabber beside a BTCL microwave station. The photo was taken yesterday.

42 bombs seized, one arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detective Branch of police yesterday recovered eight petrol bombs, 34 cocktails and some bomb making materials from the house of a city unit Jubo Dal activist at Jatrabari in the capital. They also arrested a person in this connection.

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The Daily Star



Integral Energy Limited
ONLINE POLL

Do you think former army chief Moeen U Ahmed is avoiding his responsibilities by blaming the field-level army officers for the atrocities on the Dhaka University campus in August 2007?

Yes (74.8%)
No (23.6%)
No Comments (1.6%)

TOTAL VOTES: 385

TODAY'S POLL

Do you support the government decision to change the course of the metro rail and take it through the Sangsad Bhaban complex?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT
www.thedailystar.net

PRAYER TIMING September 15

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-35	5-10
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-30	4-45
Maghrib	6-09	6-12
Esha	7-45	8-15

Source: Islamic Foundation

Sushma lauds Manmohan's Dhaka trip

PTI, Singapore

Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, who has off late been under attack by opposition parties, was praised yesterday by senior BJP leader Sushma Swaraj for his Bangladesh trip, which she said was 'very, very good'.

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Two killed in city road accidents

Passers-by vandalise vehicles

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two people were killed in road accidents at the city's Karwan Bazar and Tejgaon yesterday.

In Karwan Bazar, an unidentified 35-year-old

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PUBLIC HOSPITALS

Graft halts technician recruitment

MAHBUBA ZANNAT

Recruitment of 370 health technicians for public hospitals remains stalled for nearly a year allegedly due to corruption in the process involving a top official (now retired) of the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).

The DGHS authorities halted the recruitment amidst allegations that before retiring on January 31, the then director (admin) Abul Hasnat took money from candidates and prepared a list for recruiting them.

Written test for the recruitment was held on August 20 last year, taken by 1,482 candidates, and viva voce took place on September 6.

At present 731 posts of health technicians in public hospitals are lying vacant, according to DGHS records.

"We want immediate decision (about the recruitment) from the government. On the one hand 370 people are passing their days in uncertainty and on the other health service is being affected due to shortage of such technicians," said Organising Secretary of Bangladesh Diploma

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No extension of tax return deadline

NBR sticks to Sept 30

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The deadline set for the submission of income tax returns is September 30 and National Board of Revenue (NBR) will not extend the time this year.

NBR Chairman Nasiruddin Ahmed said this yesterday at a press meet at the office.

Replying to queries of reporters, he said there would be no extension of time like those in the previous years.

"We will keep our offices open on September 30 though the day is weekly holiday, Friday," he said adding that the tax administration has also asked banks to remain open on the day so tax payers can deposit money.

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VIQARUNNISA STUDENT ABUSE

Further probe ordered

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday ordered Detective Branch (DB) of police to conduct a further investigation into the case filed against a school teacher for violating a student of Viqarunnisa Noon School and College.

The DB has to submit the probe report by October 16, said the court.

Judge (in-charge) AKM Mostafa Dewan of the Fourth Special Tribunal for

Prevention of Women and Children Repression also rejected a bail petition of Porimol Joydhar charged with violating a class-X female student of the school.

On July 5, the victim's family filed the case accusing Porimol, a Bangla department teacher of the school's Bashundhara campus, of violating the girl at his coaching centre in the city's Badda twice, first on May 28 and then on June 17.

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BDR CARNAGE TRIAL

Complainant Khisa cross examined

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Defence lawyers yesterday completed cross-examining the complainant and first prosecution witness of the BDR carnage case, Nabojyoti Khisa, in the Metropolitan Sessions Judges Court that also started recording statement of the second witness later.

The court will record the full statement of second witness Kamal Uddin, former officer-in-charge of New Market Police Station, when it resumes the proceedings on September 21.

The third witness, an army officer who was posted at the Pikhana headquarters of the then BDR (later renamed Border Guard Bangladesh) during the February 25-26 bloodbath in 2009, was also present at the make-shift court at Bakshibazar as ordered by it. But his deposition could not be recorded due to time constraint.

Fifty-seven senior and mid-ranking army officers including the then BDR director general Maj Gen

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