

# Routes to Central Shaheed Minar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka Metropolitan Police declared a special traffic management for Central Shaheed Minar and its adjoining areas marking International Mother Language Day tomorrow (February 21).

DMP yesterday released a special layout of the area with a one-way entry and exit for human traffic on that day.

(As per the figure on the left) Those aiming to reach the Shaheed Minar from the New Market intersection (6) must go towards Home Economics College, turn left on Eden College intersection (10) and go towards Jagannath Hall by crossing the Palashi (11) and Fuller Road (12) intersections.

Those at Chankharpool intersection (1) near Dhaka Medical College Hospital must go over Bakshibazar intersection (14), turn right at Palashi intersection (11) and go towards Jagannath Hall by crossing Fuller Road (12) intersection.

People before the High Court, trying to reach Azimpur graveyard, must move towards Doyel Chatter (2), turn right towards TSC (3), then turn

left towards the vice chancellor's residence (4) and go all the way over the Nilkhet Police Box (5) and New Market (6) intersections.

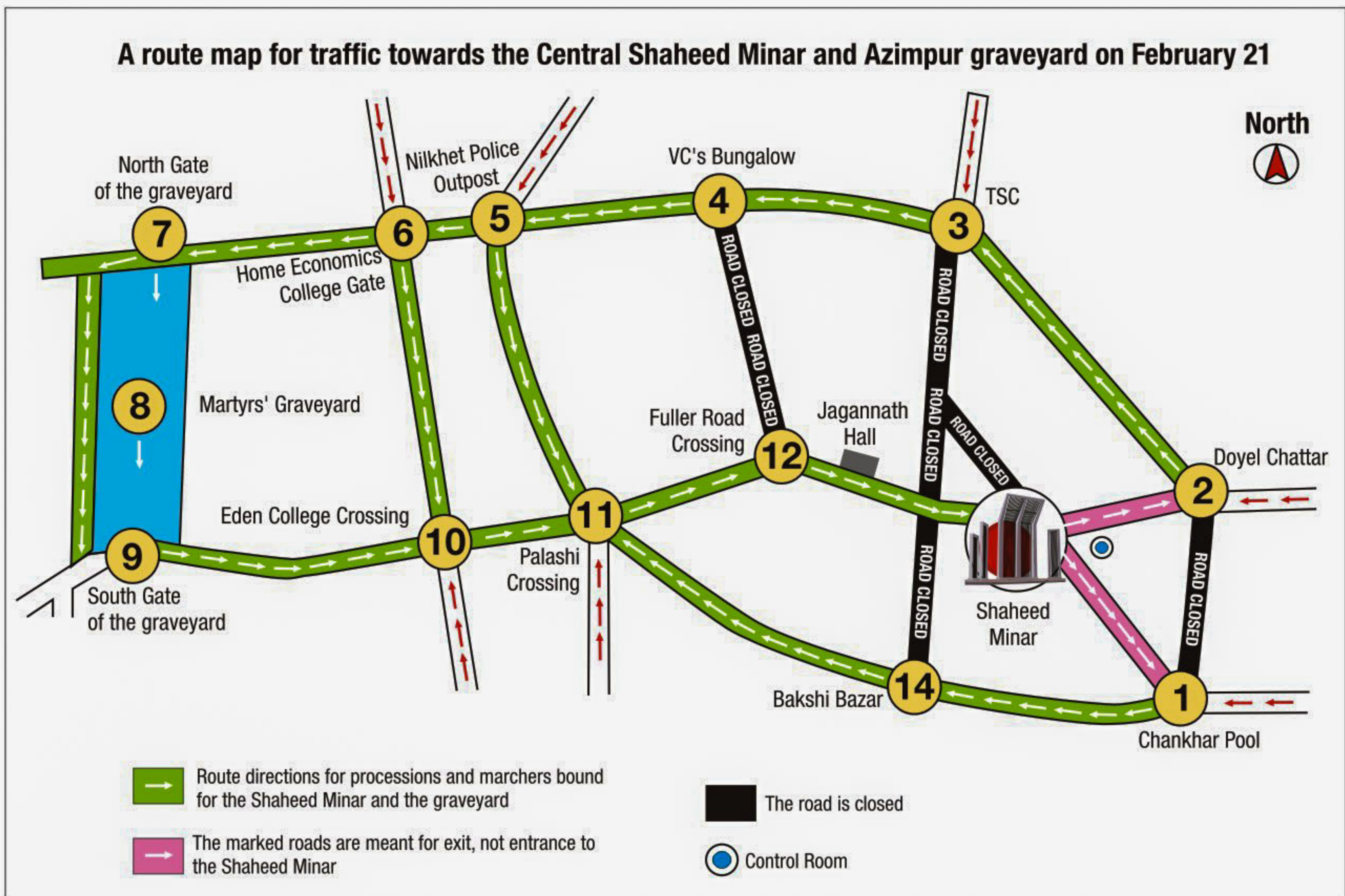
One trying to reach Shaheed Minar from the graveyard must exit through the graveyard's south gate (9) and go towards Jagannath Hall over the intersections of Eden College (10), Palashi (11) and Fuller Road (12).

Once the respects have been paid at the Shaheed Minar, people must exit using the roads leading towards Doyel Chatter (2) and Chankharpool (1) intersections.

However, the roads from TSC to Bakshibazar intersection (3 to 14), including the branching towards Shaheed Minar, from Doyel Chatter to Chankharpool intersection (2 to 1) and from the VC's residence to Fuller Road intersection (4 to 12) will be closed from 9:00pm today to 4:00pm tomorrow.

The Dhaka University authorities are coordinating the celebration with police, Dhaka City Corporation and other utility service providers.

Over 3,500 police and 600 members of Rapid Action Battalion will be deployed to maintain law and order in the areas.



Bangladesh Women Journalists' Forum forms a human chain before Jatiya Press Club in the city yesterday demanding the arrest and trial of the murderers of the journalist couple, Sagar Sarowar and his wife Meherun Runi.

PHOTO: STAR

## Politics of dead bodies over Hasina tells Khaleda

UNB, Dhaka

Exhorting her political arch rival Khaleda Zia to stop doing "politics over dead bodies", Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said the days were gone when dead bodies were the pathway to power.

"Stop playing politics over dead bodies. This ill-motivated plan won't work any more," the premier said, referring to the opposition leader.

Hasina was talking to Awami League leaders from Panchagarh at her official residence Gono Bhaban as part of her ongoing view exchange meetings with grassroots leaders.

Members of the Awami League Central Working

Committee (ALCWC) and Panchagarh AL leaders, local party lawmakers, party-backed upazila chairmen and vice-chairmen attended the meeting.

The PM mentioned that the war crimes trial was now the demand of the masses.

Hasina said the Pakistani occupation forces had committed crimes at the behest of their mentors. "But how did the sons of this soil commit killings, looting and arson, and hand over women to the Pakistan army?" she questioned.

About the comparison of the Awami League with the BNP by some quarters on the caretaker government issue, Hasina said the AL had demanded the caretaker system after witnessing the



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina addresses Panchagarh party leaders at her official residence Gono Bhaban yesterday.

Magura by-polls and Mirpur, Tejgaon, February 15 elections and other local government polls. "The BNP had rigged those elections using

muscle power," she said.

"It won't be logical if anyone compares the demand of Khaleda for a caretaker government and the demand of the AL for introducing the caretaker government system. "There was logic in our demand, but in the BNP's demand there is no logic," she said.

Hasina said the AL had established the people's right to vote and her party would allow none in the future to snatch it away.

Referring to Khaleda's recent remarks that she would make the government lame and crippled, Hasina said, "people know it well who is lame and disabled. We won't allow making our people lame and crippled as long as we are alive," she told the meeting.

## EC should be more legally, economically empowered

Speakers say at BEI discussion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission should be more empowered, both legally and economically, so that its decisions go unchallenged and it can bear its expenses without depending on the government, said speakers at a discussion yesterday.

It must also be completely neutral and independent to hold free, fair and credible elections to sustain effective democracy, they added.

The discussion, "Effective Democracy: The role of elections", was organised by Bangladesh Enterprise Institute (BEI) at its Gulshan office in the city.

The EC should have its own fund collected from citizens or private sectors to meet its staff allowance and other expenditures. There should also

be provisions so that none can challenge it whenever it declares an election null and void, they said.

They also observed that the present caretaker government system "corrupts" the country's judiciary.

Addressing the discussion, Chief Information Commissioner Muhammad Zamir said accountability is also an important factor in sustaining effective democracy.

This factor comes up as all parliament members, including the prime minister, are paying taxes, he said, adding that free flow of information safeguards human rights and national security.

Officers who try to keep their information on their income a secret have a "colonial mindset", he said.

The colonial government enacted the official secrecy act over ensuring

national security in 1923 but now national security will be threatened if the flow of information is barred, he added.

He also emphasised the need for a proper record management system. "If you do not have a proper record management system, you cannot provide the information asked for."

The discussion saw two presentations -- "Embedded and defective democracy: Elections, rule of law and the power to govern" by Prof Wolfgang Merkel of Humboldt University in Berlin and "Election and democratic consolidations in Bangladesh" by Prof Nazmul Ahsan Kalimullah of Dhaka University.

BEI President Farooq Sobhan presided over the discussion where German Ambassador to Bangladesh Holger Michael was present.

## Another JU asstt proctor resigns

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Another assistant proctor of Jahangirnagar University (JU) resigned under the pressure of a group of teachers of the university.

The university administrations yesterday appointed Aparna Shil, a lecturer, Department of Botany, as an assistant proctor, said JU proctor Prof Tapon Kumar Saha.

Selina Akhter, a lecturer, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology has resigned showing personal affairs on Saturday, he added.

A group of JU teachers under the banner of "Shikkhak Samaj" have been demonstrating after the murder of Zubair Ahmed, an English department student last month, to realise their seven-point demand.



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Human Resources Division will communicate with the qualified candidates and inform the date and time of interview of respective candidates shortly.

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