

ZERO POINT TO SADARGHAT

Clean roads, footpaths in 48 hrs, HC asks govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the government to free roads and footpaths from Zero Point to Sadarghat in the city in 48 hours to facilitate easy movement of people and vehicles.

The court said the authorities have to ensure that nobody will keep sand, rods and other materials, parked rickshaws and carts and establish makeshift shops by occupying the road and footpaths.

The court issued the order following a writ petition moved by Advocate Manzill Murshid on behalf of Human Rights and Peace for Bangladesh.

The organisation submitted the petition yesterday to the HC, seeking direction from the government to free the road from Zero Point to Sadarghat of traffic jam.

It said that lawyers, judges and litigants of Dhaka Judge's Court suffered from

traffic jam on North South Road everyday and lawyers cannot reach the court on time.

The HC also issued a rule upon the government to explain in two weeks why it would not be directed to evict or remove materials occupying the road and footpaths.

The HC bench of Justice AHM Shamsuddin Choudhury Manik and Justice Jahangir Hossain Selim came up with the rule after hearing on the petition.

The home secretary, inspector general of police, joint commissioner (traffic) and deputy commissioner (south) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, administrator of Dhaka City Corporation (south), Deputy Commissioner of Dhaka and officers-in-charge of Bangshal, Kotwali, Sutrapur and Ramna police stations have been made respondents to the rule.

Deputy Attorney General ABM Altaf Hossain represented the government.



Speakers at a seminar titled 'Standardisation of sign language in Bangla: Present conditions and the way out', organised by Prothom Alo at its office in the city yesterday. PHOTO: STAR



President Zillur Rahman gives away a gold medal to a successful graduate at the third convocation of Daffodil International University (DIU) at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in the city yesterday. PHOTO: PID

Work together to enrich Bangla language

President urges people in Bangladesh, Paschimbanga

UNB, Dhaka

President Zillur Rahman yesterday called upon the Bangla speaking people in Bangladesh and Paschimbanga to work together to cherish and enrich Bangla language, culture and traditions, as there are many similarities among them in various aspects.

The president made the remark while presiding over the third convocation of Daffodil International University (DIU) at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in the city.

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid spoke at the function as special guest while Minister of Higher Education Affairs of Indian state of Paschimbanga Bratya Basu was the convocation speaker.

Addressing the convocation, Zillur said there are many similarities in traditions, art, literature, culture and language of the people living in Bangladesh and Paschimbanga of India.

"I hope that Bangla speaking people of the two countries will work together to cherish and enrich Bangla language, culture and traditions," he said.

Welcoming Bratya Basu, Zillur said his

presence as the convocation speaker has added glory to the function. "I wish him a pleasant stay in Bangladesh."

He underscored the need for reshuffling and modernising the education curricula from primary to higher level with a view to grooming the students of the country into international standard citizens.

Apart from pursuing the basic education of arts, humanities, science and business studies, he said new students would have to be connected with new knowledge and also build them as international standard citizens.

He said the country's education curricula must incorporate the studies of its arts, literature, traditions, non-communality, and above all, the spirit of liberation war to help broaden the student's minds and thoughts. "Mainly, higher education will have to be absolute and universal."

A total of 3,220 graduate and undergraduate students from three faculties Science & Information Technology; Business & Economics; and Humanities and Social Sciences were conferred with degrees at the convocation.

DIU trustee board chairman M Sabur Khan and its vice chancellor Prof Dr M Lutfar Rahman also spoke at the function.

BANGLADESH-INDIA DIALOGUE

Continued cooperation stressed

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a dialogue yesterday stressed the need for continued cooperation between Bangladesh and India for the early implementation of agreements and understanding reached between the two countries in the past three years.

Despite some setbacks on some specific issues, sincere efforts, powered by strong political will from both sides, are being put into overcoming the hurdles, they observed.

The "Bangladesh-India Dialogue on Cooperative Development, Peace and Security in South and Central Asia: Strengthening India-Bangladesh Relations" was held at Palli Karma Sahayak Foundation (PKSF) auditorium.

Bangladesh Unnayan Parishad, Dhaka School of Economics, PKSF and Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development (CRRID) of India organised the two-day dialogue which concluded yesterday.

Acknowledging the incomplete implementation of agreements, commitments and decisions over the past three years, Foreign Minister Dipu Moni, at the dialogue, said Bangladesh and India have excellent relations which tend to be very cooperative.

She asked all not to be discouraged over issues which have not yet been achieved as the leadership of both countries have the courage to make the effort to attain their goals.

Steps like the lifting of various

tariff and non-tariff barriers and enabling duty free access of Bangladeshi products to the Indian market were taken to remove the trade gap between the two countries, she added.

Pinak Ranjan Chakravarty, currently special secretary (Public Diplomacy) of India's Ministry of External Affairs, said the transformation of this region's landscape was made possible by the visionary, courageous and determined leadership of both countries.

"The transformation has been taking place in recent years. Now we are no longer thinking of what to do but on how to do it and on the need to operationalise all agreements, MoUs and commitments," he said.

Pinak, who was Indian High Commissioner in Dhaka from 2007

to 2009, said some may think that there are worries and setbacks but "we will keep working, achieve and overcome all hurdles. We are determined to achieve the goal."

On border management, the Indian diplomat said the Indian Border Security Force (BSF) had strictly been ordered not to open fire and show maximum restraint under all circumstances.

However, he said some 153 BSF men had received serious injuries while another was killed in attacks from Bangladesh's side in the past year.

The session was also addressed by former Bangladesh foreign secretary CM Shafi Sami, former Indian foreign secretary Salman Haider, PKSF Chairman Kazi Kholiuzzaman Ahmad and Prof Sucha Singh Gill of CRRID of India.

হ্যাটি ও কোলেস্টেরল মুক্ত, পরিপূর্ণ পুষ্টিকর

- মাংস, ডিন ও দুধের চেয়েও বেশী প্রোটিন।
- আয়রন, ক্যালসিয়াম, ফাইবার, ভিটামিন প্রভৃতিতে ভরপুর।
- সহজেই হজমযোগ্য ও খেতে সুস্বাদু।
- শিশু থেকে বৃদ্ধ, পুরুষ-মহিলা সকলে গ্রহণ করতে পারে।
- ক্যাশার, ডায়াবেটিক, কিডনী জনিত রোগসমূহ ও হৃদ রোগের ঝুঁকি কমায়ে।

সজীব সয়া নাগেট

পুষ্টিতে, সুস্বাস্থ্যে

Sajeeb Group



Sandhani executives

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prof Dr Ali Asgar Moral and Prof Dr Mohammad Habib Millat Munna have been elected president and general secretary of Sandhani National Eye Donation Society for 2012-14, says a press release.

Besides, Nawajish Ali Khan, Prof Dr AKM Salek, and Dr Jainul Abedin were elected vice-presidents, Dr Arif Salam Khan joint secretary, Dr Jainul Islam organising secretary, Dr Tossadek Hossain Siddique treasurer, Dr Mohammad Iqbal Kabir publicity secretary, Dr Mohammad Alamgir Hossen communication secretary, and Dr Moinuddin Ahmed Monju office secretary.

Verdict in Apu murder case March 13

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Judgment in the sensational Ashkur Rahman Khan Apu murder case filed against seven accused, including a cousin of home minister, will be delivered on March 13.

The case was filed with the Sutrapur Police Station on May 24, 2008, a day after Apu, a private university student, was shot dead and his two brothers were injured in Wari.

After completion of the arguments, Judge Shahed Nuruddin of the Speedy Trial Tribunal-1 set the date for delivery of the judgment of the case.

The court also cancelled the bail of Mahub Alam and issued an arrest warrant against him as he was absent yesterday.

Earlier, the government had made several moves to withdraw the case against all the seven charge-sheeted accused, citing political affiliations.

But in the wake of widespread criticism and publication of reports in two national dailies, the government made U-turn and withdrew its earlier decision for withdrawal of the case.

The seven charge-sheeted accused are Monjurul Abedin Russell, Mahub Alam, Mohammad Ali alias Munna, Nawshad Hossain Mollah alias Robin, Iftekhar Beg alias Jhalak, Biplob Chandra Das and Atiq Ahmed Shiplu.

Of the accused, Russell, Jhalak, Munna and Robin are behind bars, Biplob and Mahub on the run, and Shiplu is out on bail. Shiplu and Biplob are activists of Jubo League, the youth front of the ruling Awami League; and Munna is said to be a cousin of Home Minister Shahara Khatun.

When contacted earlier over phone, Shahara declined to comment if Munna was her cousin or not.

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The Daily Star Spelling Bee

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