

CITY CORPORATION ACT Exclusion depriving slum dwellers

Workshop told

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Slum dwellers are being deprived of their rights to enjoy the facilities of Dhaka city corporations as they have not been included in The Local Government (City Corporation) Act-2009, said speakers at a workshop yesterday.

Although serving the residents of the capital in many ways, the financially insolvent slum dwellers are often becoming the victims of eviction due to the absence of their housing rights, they added.

Eviction also deprives children residing in slums of educational facilities, they told the national workshop, "Incorporating Onneyshan's proposals in the city corporation act to ensure slum dwellers' rights", says a press release.

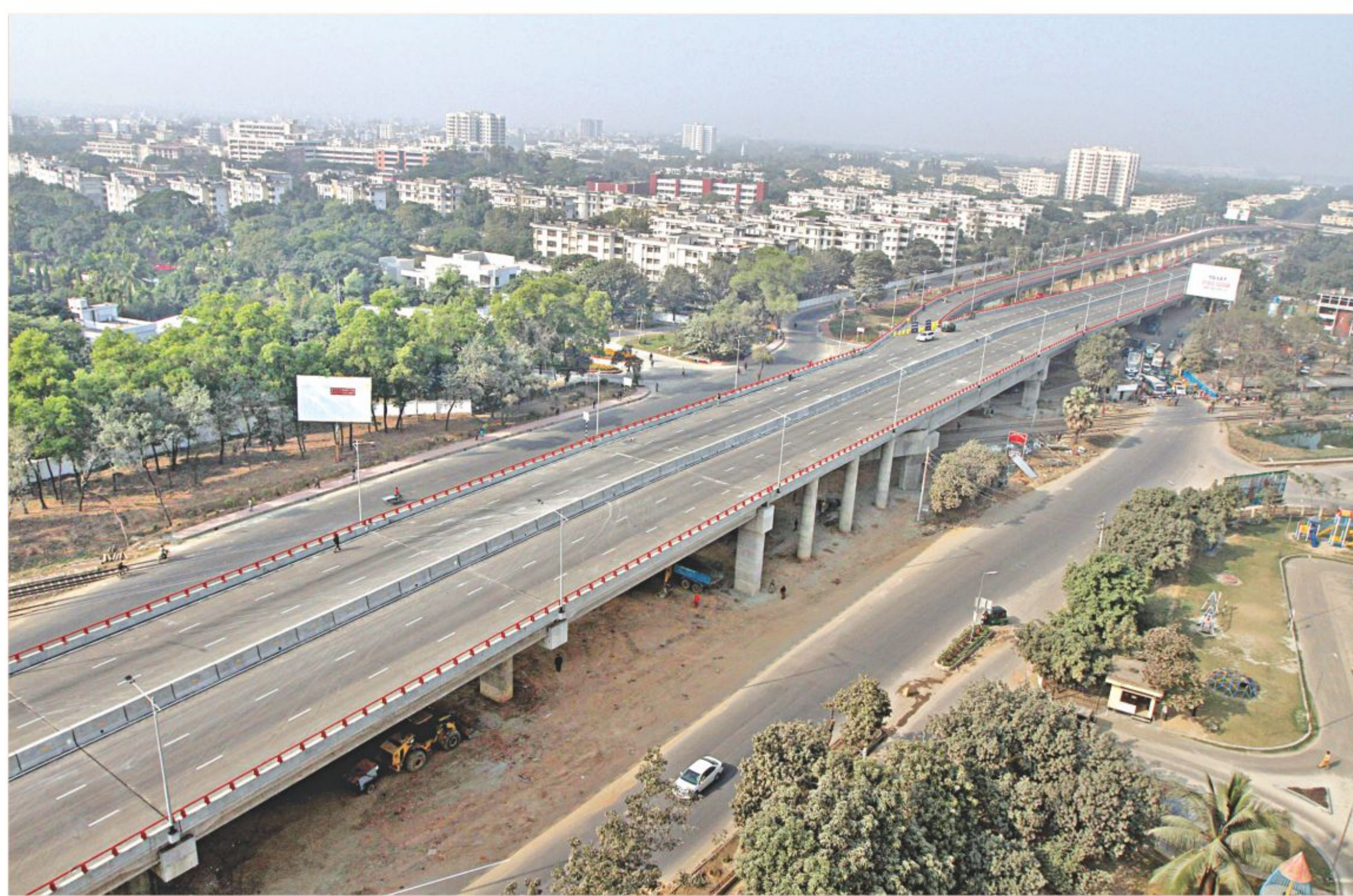
Onneyshan, a non-government organisation, organised the workshop with assistance from Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF) in the capital's Cirdap Auditorium.

Currently around four lakh financially insolvent people live in some 4,000 slums in the city but they do not have facilities like access to electricity and fuel, they said.

The speakers demanded that the government includes slum dwellers in the city corporation act to ensure their rights and keep the city's environment friendly towards all.

State Minister for Housing and Public Works Abdul Mannan Khan addressed the workshop as chief guest.

Awami League lawmakers AKM Mozammel Haque, Prof Sagufa Yasmin Emily and Alhaj Ilias Uddin Mollah, Narayanganj City Corporation Mayor Dr Selina Hayat Ivy and MJF Executive Director Shaheen Anam also spoke at the workshop.



The Banani flyover in the capital is scheduled to be opened to public after inauguration by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina today.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

Muggers hack man in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Muggers yesterday hacked and injured a man and snatched his cellphone as well as Tk 500 in the capital's Khilgaon.

Critically injured, Farhad Ali, 30, of Gaibandha, works as a tailor at Sania Tailors in Rampura Banasree. With four injuries in his neck, head and abdomen, he is undergoing treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

Farhad came from his village around 5:00pm and started walking from Khilgaon to his workplace. When he reached Bhuiyan Para around 5:30am, some eight muggers waylaid him and tried to mug him. As Farhad struggled to prevent the muggers, they hacked him and took away his belongings.

Later, locals rescued him and first took him to Khidmah Hospital at Taltola in Khilgaon from where Sub-Inspector Faruk Hossain of Khilgaon Police Station shifted him to the DMCH.

Woman found dead on rail tracks

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A woman was found dead on the rail tracks in the capital's Khilkhet on Tuesday night.

The dead, Shirin Ali, 27, worked as a bank officer at Nikunja branch of City Bank.

Kamalapur Railway police recovered the body from the spot and suspected that a train might have run over Shirin.

Witnesses said they saw Shirin wandering on the rail lines and talking over phone for a long time.

Shirin's brother, Shahed Ali, said a man called over his phone and said the owner of the phone had been crushed under train wheels.

Police said they did not find the phone but recovered a bag with earrings, Tk 2,300 and three debit and credit cards from the spot.

An unnatural death case was filed with Kamalapur GRP Station.

AL Dhaka city unit council today

Two separate committees likely for north, south

HASAN JAHID TUSHER

The council of Dhaka city unit of the ruling Awami League (AL) will be held today after a lapse of nine and a half years.

The last council of the city AL was held on June 18, 2003.

According to the AL constitution, the council was supposed to be held every three years.

AL insiders said the city AL unit would be formed comprising senior and young leaders so that they could incorporate future leaders in the party through this council.

The city unit would be divided into two units in line with the recent divide of Dhaka City Corporation. Two separate committees for Dhaka North and Dhaka South would be formed, they added.

Incumbent General Secretary Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya Bir Bikram is likely to be the president of Dhaka North city unit and lawmaker Aslamul Haque Aslam is likely to be its general secretary, they said.

Meanwhile, incumbent Acting City AL President MA Aziz is likely to be the president of Dhaka South city unit, and its general secretary would likely to be chosen from State Minister for Law Qamrul Islam, Sayeed Khokon, son of late DCC mayor Mohammad Hanif, and Shah-e-Alam, organising secretary of the city AL.

For the last few days, supporters of the candidates have been showing their strength in numbers on Bangabandhu Avenue and Dhanmondi offices.

During recent visits at the party's central office on Bangabandhu Avenue, AL President Sheikh Hasina's political office in Dhanmondi and Suhrawardi Udyan where the council will be held at 2:00pm, this correspondent found that posters and banners of many leaders flooded the areas.

According to sources in the AL, most of the aspirants for the top positions spent huge amount of money ranging from Tk 5 lakh to Tk 10 lakh in the campaigns.

AL Joint General Secretary Mahbubul Alam Hanif said the councilors will elect new leaders for the city committees comprising old and new faces.

Talking to The Daily Star, Aslamul Haque said he would respect the opinion and judgment of the party's councilors and its high command.

The national council of AL will be held on December 29.

Political influence degrades rule of law: Dr Kamal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Eminent jurist Dr Kamal Hossain yesterday expressed his concern over the degradation of the country's rule of law due to rising political influence in all sectors.

"Be it law enforcing agencies, be it Bangladesh Television, political influence is everywhere. In reality, the current politics cannot tolerate any neutral position," he said.

"Since politicisation is happening everywhere, at this stage, a neutral and competent caretaker government could make a difference. But unfortunately, the caretaker government system was abolished even long before the full text of the Supreme Court verdict was released," he added.

He made the remarks while speaking on the rule of law of Bangladesh and youth empowerment, at a programme participated by around 300 youths from different parts of Bangladesh.

The programme titled "Bangladesh Youth Parliament 2012" held at the city's Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in the capital was jointly organised by National Youth Forum Bangladesh and International Migrant Foundation.

Addressing the programme, Dr Akbar Ali Khan, former adviser to a caretaker government, said, "The law and administration of the country face continuous challenges due to political influences. Now time comes to change the country's administration system that we inherited from the British regime."

"In the past, people enjoyed respect from political parties on the eve of election. But conspiracy is going on to take away that respect as well. Then how can the rule of law be established in Bangladesh?" he added.

Road crashes kill 6

METRO DESK

Six people were killed and 24 others injured in separate road accidents in Dhaka, Chittagong, Khulna, Brahmanbaria and Narsingdi yesterday.

Our staff correspondent reports, a man died as a bus ran him over while he was crossing the road at Kakrail in the capital yesterday morning.

Victim, Kamrul Islam, 45, lived at Hazipara.

Our staff correspondent from Chittagong reports, two fish traders died as a truck carrying them hit a parked container vehicle on Chittagong-Cox's Bazar highway near CDA residential area in the city early yesterday.

The deceased were Mohammed Abbas, 22, and Yakub, 30, of Anowara upazila in Chittagong.

A correspondent from Khulna reports, a bus helper Sumon, 13, was killed and 20 other injured as the bus crashed into a tree beside Khulna-Jessore highway in front of Atra police outpost in the city yesterday evening.

Our Brahmanbaria correspondent reports, Ananta Rishi, 10, of Bhairab in Kishoreganj, was killed instantly and four others of a family were injured when a human hauler collided head-on with a CNG-run auto-rickshaw on Sarail-Nasirnagar road at Tallapara in Nasirnagar upazila of the district yesterday morning.

The injured were identified as Sarunjit, 8, Nipa, 15, Taramoni, 30, and Bina, 31.

Our Narsingdi correspondent reports, an unidentified elderly woman died as a microbus ran her over in Narsingdi railway station area yesterday afternoon.

KOREAN PENINSULA Dipu Moni hopes for amicable settlement

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Foreign Minister Dipu Moni yesterday said Bangladesh hoped the Korean Peninsula would see amicable settlement of all outstanding issues and establishment of a nuclear free zone in the region in near future.

She said this when the outgoing Ambassador of Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) Sin Hong Chol met her at the foreign ministry yesterday afternoon.

Dipu Moni said disarmament, peaceful resolution of conflicts, international peace, stability and development constitute the core values pursued by Bangladesh in terms of foreign policy objectives.

Recalling the support provided by North Korea during Bangladesh's War of Liberation in 1971, the foreign minister appreciated the existing friendly relations.

The Korean ambassador thanked the Bangladeshi government for the support he received during his mission.

He underlined that his country highly values the relations with Bangladesh and expressed hope that the existing friendship and cooperation between the two countries would be enhanced in future.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina with the newly commissioned cadets of the 67th Long Course and 38th Special Course of Bangladesh Military Academy in Bhatiary of Chittagong yesterday.

PHOTO: PID

Star
CHALLENGES YOU

The Daily Star is going to recruit some **trainee sub-editors, sub-editors and reporters** for print and online sections.

We want our reporters to be honest, bright, persistent, personable and courageous. Good reporters are the heart of news gathering, and they should have endless curiosity, commitment, a deep need to know what is happening, the ability to hear a small clue and follow it, the ability to sort out conflicting information and communicate it without bias.

An ideal sub-editor thrives on the challenges of being the gatekeeper of a newspaper. Sub-editors edit, rewrite and give life to news reports submitted by reporters. And, to do that, aspirants must have strong command over English, good sense of news and a great deal of creativity.

Do you have those qualities in you?

If yes, apply with a **resume** and a recent **photo** on or before January 11, 2013.

Send Application to:
In-charge
Human Resource
The Daily Star
64-65 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue
Dhaka.

Or

alternatively apply to:
hr@thedailystar.net

**Feel the excitement of newsroom.
Be a proud member of the nation's
largest circulated English Daily**

APON for Drug Free Society
bringing hope through rehabilitation

1st Annual 5K RUN/WALK 2012

For more information go to **www.greg67.com**
APON 5K Run/Walk is open to all ages, including children
100% of the proceeds will fund rehabilitation of drug abused kids in the streets of Dhaka
Media Partner:
The Daily Star

Friday, Dec 28, 2012
8:00AM Sign-in & Registration, 9:00AM Run/Walk Starts
RAOWA, Dhaka Cantonment, Bangladesh
Register Now & Pledge Donations
NO REGISTRATION FEE

RACE MAP
Race Start: Front of RAOWA Club, Dec 28, 2012, Start Time: 9:00 AM
Race Finish: Jatiyo Sangshad Bhaban, Dec 28, 2012

Please make donations payable to:
APON
APONGAON, Basta Bazar
Singair Upazila, Manikganj District
Post Mail: 97 Asad Ave.,
Mohammadpur, Dhaka 1207, Bangladesh

Contact Person:
Brother Ronald Drahozal CSC
Executive Director
Email: apongaon@gmail.com
Cell phone: 01711400502