



WITH TODAY'S ISSUE

Star
ShowbizCITY CORPORATION
ELECTIONS 2015

KHALEDA'S CAMPAIGN

EC sees rules violation

Asks for measures to stop campaign with procession, motorcade

STAR REPORT

The Election Commission is going to impose restrictions on BNP chief Khaleda Zia's electioneering, as she is campaigning with motorcade and a huge number of people blocking roads in violation of the electoral code of conduct.

In a letter last night, the EC asked the returning officers of Dhaka south and Dhaka north city corporation polls to make sure that Khaleda stops doing so.

The returning officers will forward the letter to the Dhaka Metropolitan Police commissioner for actions. They will also write to Khaleda cautioning her of the rules violation, said EC sources.

Under the law, motorcade showdown is prohibited in the polls campaign. Also, candidates and their supporters cannot create hindrance to public movement during electioneering.

"In the last couple of days, we have seen that traffic movements were severely obstructed as roads were almost blocked because of Khaleda Zia's motorcade and supporters

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'KABUL TO KOLKATA'

Drik exhibition showcases photos of Moska Najib and Nazez Afroz

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PETRAEUS NOW PAYS

EX-CIA chief gets probation and fine for leaking military secrets

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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina holds the trophy and poses with the Tigers for photos at the Mirpur Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium yesterday after the Bangladesh cricket team comprehensively beat Pakistan in the only T20I of Pakistan's tour of Bangladesh.

PHOTO:
FIROZ AHMED

A job nearly impossible

City corporations cannot deliver civic services due to govt control, lack of coordination with 18 ministries, 56 departments

TAWFIQUE ALI

A city corporation cannot deliver desired services without freeing itself from government influence, checking internal corruption and ensuring proper coordination with other agencies, said leading local government and urban experts.

To elaborate their points of argument, the experts used Dhaka city as the example, saying that the situation in the capital is ideal to describing those in other city corporations.

A total of 18 ministries and 56 government departments carry out development activities in the capital city, said Prof Sarwar Jahan of Urban Planning at Bangladesh University of

Engineering and Technology (Buet).

"So, the city corporation will not be in a position to function effectively and serve the city dwellers unless it gets precedence over other agencies in a city government system," he said.

The need for a revised city government system was also stressed by local government researcher Prof Zarina Rahman Khan.

Moreover, it has to function as a vibrant council of all the elected councillors, not just an institution run by the mayor only, said the professor of Public Administration at Dhaka University.

Besides, there's no clear definition of what the actual area of Dhaka city is, said Dr Tofail Ahmed, a leading local

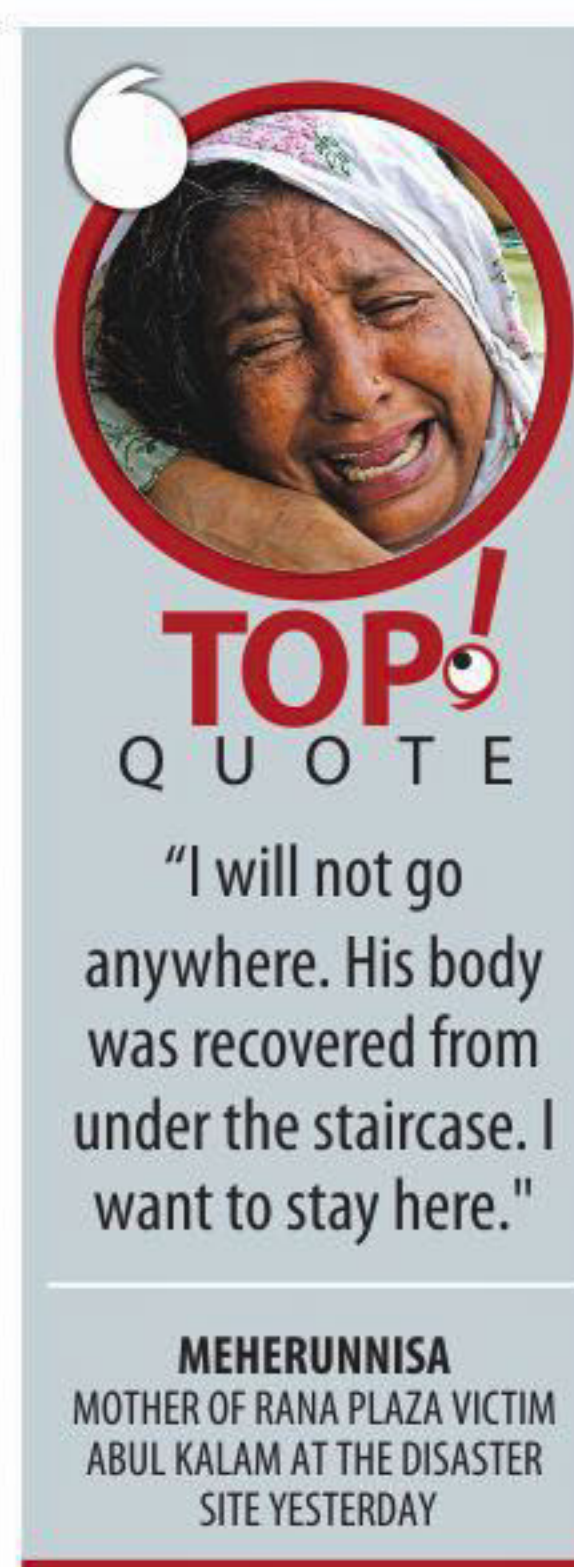
government researcher.

The area of undivided Dhaka city corporation was 127 square kilometres while the city's master plan prepared by Rajuk puts it at 1,528 sqkm. The area is 3,500 sqkm according to the Strategic Transport Plan while the statistical metropolitan area is 1,350 sqkm and Wasa area is 360 sqkm.

"Now, which area should the city corporations serve?" asked Tofail.

Despite being located right inside the city, a sprawling private housing project known as Basundhara Residential Area is not under the city corporation's jurisdiction. Interestingly, its residents enjoy all the city services without paying any tax at all, he said.

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**TOP!**
QUOTE

"I will not go anywhere. His body was recovered from under the staircase. I want to stay here."

MEHERUNNISA
MOTHER OF RANA PLAZA VICTIM
ABUL KALAM AT THE DISASTER
SITE YESTERDAY

Tigers past T20 hurdle too

BISHWAJIT ROY

Bangladesh's celebrations continued as they retained their good and positive brand of cricket to clinch their first-ever T20 International win over Pakistan at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur last night.

The Tigers camp erupted with joy as water was sprayed all around from the players' bottles once Shakib Al Hasan hit Saeed Aijmal through covers for the winning boundary which ensured that Bangladesh would receive both the ODI and T20 trophies from Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. After Zimbabwe and West Indies, Pakistan is the third full-member country against whom Bangladesh won a T20I. It seemed that Bangladesh made it a series of achieving feats one after another.

Fresh from the 3-0 whitewash in the ODIs, the Mashrafe Bin Mortaza-led side put aside any talks of their weakness in the shortest format of the game and simply outclassed the formidable Pakistan side by seven wickets in the one-off T20I, courtesy of some superb bowling, followed by fireworks from the batsmen.

The bowlers, including 19-year-old debutant Mustafizur Rahman, handcuffed the Pakistan batsmen and restricted them to 141 for 5 off their allotted overs. When it was time to bat, Shakib and Sabbir Rahman toyed with the touring bowlers, knocking them all over the park, and finished the match with clinical efficiency with seven wickets and 22 balls to spare.

In chase of the modest total, Tamim Iqbal

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People on motorbikes spearhead BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's motorcade as she resumes campaigning for party endorsed candidates. The photo was taken on Pragati Sarani yesterday.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

Not forgotten, not forgiven

WASIM BIN HABIB and TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

**2 YEARS OF
RANA
PLAZA
DISASTER**

Anjuara Begum made her way through a crowd towards the piles of the debris-strewn disaster site in Savar. She stopped before a pit filled with rainwater.

Kneeling down, she dipped one of her fists in the greenish water and touched her face with the wet palm. Anjuara mumbled; her eyes brimmed with tears. Her cry soon turned into howl as a woman tried to take her away from the edge of water.

"Here, here my son Hridoy has died ... bury me here.

My son, my jewel is around here," she cried, holding tightly a piece of concrete rubble.

She lost her elder son Hridoy Hossain, who used to work on the fifth floor of Rana Plaza. The body was never found.

Hridoy stopped studying and became the main bread earner of the four-member family after his father had fallen ill several years back. His younger brother is a class-VII student at a local madrasa in Mymensingh.

Hailing from Mymensingh, Anjuara has suffered all her life. Her parents were brutally killed by robbers when

RELATED STORIES ON PAGE 16

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Switzerland happiest country

Global report places Bangladesh ahead of India, Sri Lanka
STAR REPORT

Bangladeshis are happier than Indians, Nepalese and Sri Lankans, according to the 2015 World Happiness Report.

Bangladesh comes in at the 109th spot out of 158 countries surveyed. India ranks 117, Nepal 121 and Sri Lanka 132.

Sustainable Development Solutions Network, which is a global initiative for the UN, unveiled the report in New York on Thursday.

The report takes into account GDP per capita, life expectancy, social support and freedom to make life choices as indicators of happiness.

Switzerland has been named the happiest country in the world. The other countries in the top five are Iceland, Denmark, Norway and Canada.

Bangladesh's rank dropped one notch from the 2013 report, when it was on the 108th spot out of 156 countries surveyed that year.

In the 2015 report, the

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