



CAPITAL IN 21ST CENTURY

Is social business the way forward?
Then what's its challenge?

PAGE 6

CELEBRATING A CELEBRITY

On his 80th birth anniversary, noted educationist
Hasan Imam launches 'Neel Chhoa Kingbodonti'

PAGE 9

KILLER ROBOTS

Tech experts warn against AI arms
race, as they term it a bad idea

PAGE 8

Tk 79cr goes down the drain

*Fresh move to spend Tk 20 crore to repair
rundown road under Hanif flyover*

M ABUL KALAM AZAD and MAHBUBUR
RAHMAN KHAN

The Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) spent Tk 72 crore to repair the dilapidated road under the Mayor Hanif flyover amid public outcry and sufferings during rainy season last year.

The DSCC also put up another Tk 7-crore project for development of a drainage system to put an end to waterlogging on the road.

Although the entire sum has already been paid to the contractors, the road remains in the same dreadful state. Many potholes along with mud and waterlogging at different points have made the road a hazardous one following days of rain.

The road is in such a rickety condition that private cars cannot use it. Larger vehicles like buses and trucks still ply it but bump constantly and so hard that it is very difficult for passengers to remain in their seats. During a visit, vehicles were even seen hitting the road divider.

In many cases, vehicles break down after falling in deep potholes.

"We have to be very tactful while crossing the road. I find it very difficult to control my bus as I try to avoid the potholes," said a driver of Shikor Paribahan.

People walking along the road also feel the pinch of it. Often, their clothes get stained with dirty water.

The road had earlier been left in a poor state during construction of the flyover. Its poor condition, however, remained the same since the flyover opened for public in October 2013.

Sources in Nagar Bhaban said development works were carried out following a number of meetings involving officials of the DSCC, LGRD ministry and police before Eid-ul-Azha last year.

Before that a team from the traffic department of Dhaka Metropolitan Police led by the then additional commissioner (traffic) Mili Biswas visited the road, took photographs and held a meeting with the DSCC top officials.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5



The road under Mayor Mohammad Hanif Flyover near the capital's Jatrabari intersection remains appalling due to poor repairs and maintenance. In the rainy season, the cratered road becomes even worse. The photo was taken yesterday. More photos on page 2.

PHOTO:
AMRAN HOSSAIN

Female workers' migration rising

FAARIA TASIN

The number of Bangladeshi female migrant workers has been on the rise even though migration of Bangladeshi workers has declined by 30 percent in 2014, compared to that of 2012.

According to the June 2015 statistics of Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training (BMET), a total of 37,304 female workers had gone to different countries in 2012 and the number rose to 76,007 in 2014.

One country which stands out in terms of employment of female workers is the UAE. According to the BMET statistics, the UAE is home to 27 percent of the total female migrant workers of Bangladesh.

According to the officials at the Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Ministry, two basic reasons can explain this rising trend. Firstly, the demand for female workers in the UAE is higher than that of other countries. Secondly, attractive salary in the UAE draws more female migrant workers there than other countries.

After the UAE, Lebanon hires a large number of female migrant workers. While the country has only 1.3 percent of total Bangladeshi migrants, it nevertheless has the second highest percentage of female migrants (24.3 percent)

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



PM gives 21-point directives to DCs

Asks them to change bureaucratic mindset



PM'S DIRECTIVES TO DCs

- Check human and drug trafficking
- Make people aware against terrorism and militancy
- Act tough on repression against women and children
- Create awareness against food adulteration
- Protect environment and conserve water bodies
- Act against attempts to create artificial crisis in the market

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has urged the deputy commissioners (DCs) to be innovative and prompt in implementing development policies and programmes.

"You should not be engaged only in routine activities. You will have to come out of old bureaucratic mentality and adopt new ways and strategies of work for the welfare of the people in your areas," she said at the inaugural session of the three-day DC

Conference that began at the Prime Minister's Office yesterday.

"You will have to work not only as a government official but also as a patriotic citizen," the PM said, adding that her government's main objective is to make the nation hunger and poverty-free by 2041 and the DCs must work more to realise this vision.

Hasina then went on to issue a set of 21 directives and asked the DCs to implement those without fear.

DCs want code of conduct for local representatives

HASAN JAHID TUSHER

Deputy commissioners (DCs) yesterday suggested introduction of a code of conduct for local elected representatives and formation of a high-powered committee to recruit teachers for private educational institutions.

They also suggested construction of a road along the country's border in Chittagong division with India and Myanmar.

The DCs were in a closed-door meeting with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her office in the capital.

A total of 31 DCs spoke at the meeting. The PM assured the officials of considering their suggestions, meeting sources told The Daily Star.

Divisional Commissioner Zillar Rahman of Dhaka thanked the PM for the cabinet's approval to the Public Service Act and proposals to empower mobile courts.

"The prime minister gave us inspiring directives and told us how we could work more," said a DC, wishing anonymity.

Another official said the premier advised them on how they could create new opportunities for the people. She asked the officials to work in a more coordinated way with the elected representatives.

Pabna DC demanded formation of a high-level committee to recruit teachers for non-government educational institutions to ensure transparency in recruitment. He said DCs receive complaints from people about irregularities in

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2



"We want 18 to be the minimum marriageable age [for girls] in the law --- no 'if', 'then' or

FORMER CG ADVISER
RASHEDA K CHOWDHURY
AT A NATIONAL PROGRAMME
ON ENDING CHILD MARRIAGE



Amid torrential rain over the last few days, a stretch of Chimbuk-Bandarban road in Mrolongpara of Bandarban has come apart, cutting off links between Bandarban and Thanchi upazila headquarters. Many roads leading to popular tourist destinations of Nilgiri, Boga Lake and Keokradong in the hill district have been badly damaged in the downpour. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO:
STAR

Rain, floods ruin roads

STAR REPORT

The receding flood water in Bandarban has badly damaged many roads, cutting off communications between the town and several tourist destinations in the hill district in the last three days.

Many roads and highways in Chittagong, Noakhali and Cox's Bazar have been severely damaged in downpours, causing travel disruptions due to road closures.

Over 162 kilometres of Chittagong city streets have been subjected to incessant rain and inundation. There are a total of around 800km of roads in the Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) area.

CCC officials said they would require about Tk 111 crore to repair the damaged roads.

In Bandarban, many roads leading to tourist destinations of Nilgiri, Boga Lake, and Keokradong have been damaged.

The water of the Sangu and Matamuhuri rivers has started subsiding, marking a slight improvement in the overall flood situation of the district.

Heavy rainfall paralysed normal life in Noakhali. Nine of its upazilas have been inundated. Seedbeds of Aman paddy on around 400 hectares have been damaged.

Most of the roads in Kesharpar and Chatarpaia unions of Senbag upazila have gone under water.

Waterlogging caused by incessant rain over the last week damaged several hundred acres of seedbed in Chandpur. Fish farmers suffered losses as fish enclosures were flooded.

Though the overall flood situation improved in Chakaria, Ramu, Pekua and Kutubdia upazilas of Cox's

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1



Verdict on SQ Chy appeal today

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

All eyes are on the Supreme Court that is set to deliver today its verdict on an appeal of war criminal Salauddin Quader Chowdhury challenging his death penalty and other sentences.

A four-member SC bench headed by Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha is set to sit at 9:00am and pronounce the judgment at the beginning of today's court proceedings.

This is the fifth time the Appellate Division of the SC is going to deliver a verdict

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1