



## MOGHBAZAR FLYOVER

# Change to create more chaos

### Fear leading experts, project officials following ramp extension near Sonargaon Hotel

TAWFIQUE ALI

The extended Moghbazar-Mouchak Flyover ramp near Sonargaon Hotel may make the already crammed street even more congested, according to an expert and project officials.

Moreover, a 50-metre carriageway deck of the ramp, built in front of the Bangladesh Film Development Corporation (popularly known as the FDC) at a cost of around Tk 9.5 crore, would now have to be demolished, said a project official.

Construction work to extend the ramp by 450 metres towards the hotel at a cost of Tk

85 crore was underway. The ramp cannot be extended beyond the Sonargaon Hotel intersection, as it would conflict with the proposed Metro Rail, said the flyover project director.

Insiders say that a traffic survey conducted in April this year found that more than 1,600 vehicles use the street in front of the hotel every hour during the rush hours mostly to go towards Panthapath, Bangla Motor and Farmgate.

Just 166 vehicles, of the around 1,800 vehicles that take the flyover facility from Holy Family Hospital direction every hour

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An extended ramp for the capital's Moghbazar-Mouchak flyover being built near the FDC level crossing yesterday. Experts believe the ramp could narrow down the street further and be of little use for city dwellers. PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

## BUDGET PROPOSAL

# No one in BNP to give reactions

RASHIDUL HASAN

The BNP that ruled the country for over 10 years in two terms since the restoration of democracy in Bangladesh in 1990 is struggling to come up with formal reactions to the proposed budget for fiscal 2016-17.

After the demise of former finance minister and BNP founding member M Saifur Rahman in 2009, experts from the party -- former World Bank official Osman Faruk, former science and ICT minister Moyeen Khan, former cabinet secretary MK Anwar and former commerce minister

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## The never-built dream home

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

During his visit to Bangladesh over 38 years ago, Muhammad Ali was gifted a piece of land in Cox's Bazar by a local. The overwhelmed boxer had then reacted by saying he would like to make a dream home there one day. He said he had now a home to come to in case he ever was banished from his native land.

But that dream home never became a reality.

Ali, considered the greatest heavyweight in the history of boxing, spent just a

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RELATED STORY ON PAGE 2

# THE LEGEND NO MORE



AFP, Los Angeles

He called himself "The Greatest," and few disagreed.

Muhammad Ali -- who died yesterday in Arizona at age 74 -- was one of the iconic sporting heroes of the 20th century, the three-time heavyweight

THE GREATEST, ONE AND ONLY -- PAGE 6

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# Deadliest polls end, taking four more lives

### At least 126 people killed in the six-phase election

STAR REPORT

The staggered union parishad elections, the deadliest in the country's electoral history, ended yesterday with four more lives lost in polls violence.

More than 150 people were wounded, as the election to 698 union parishads in the sixth and last phase also saw incidents of violence and polls irregularities.

The four deaths were reported from Mymensingh, Noakhali, Feni and Sunamganj.

At least 126 people lost their lives in violence since the announcement of the polls schedule in February. Of them, 40 were killed on the six voting days and the



rest in pre-and post-polls violence.

In the UP polls of 2011, 27 people were killed in violence while the number was 80 in the 2003 election. Thirty-one lives were lost in violence in the 1997 UP polls and 80 in the 1988 election.

As in the previous five phases of the polls this year, supporters of chairman and member candidates, mostly from the ruling Awami League, yesterday resorted to various irregularities, including capture of polling stations, stuffing of ballot boxes and casting of fake votes in more than 50 unions, according to reports from The Daily Star

POLLS VIOLENCE DUE TO SOCIAL INSTABILITY -- PAGE 16



EMINENT RIGHTS ACTIVIST

SULTANA KAMAL

AT A PROGRAMME IN THE CAPITAL YESTERDAY

TOP QUOTE

"There was a time when we ideally believed that politics would control everything, but now we see many other interests are controlling politics."

Take a sneak peak at the most comprehensive Eid guide in the country today.

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# Star EID CELEBRATIONS 2016

COMES OUT ON THE FIRST WEEK OF RAMADAN AND IS PACKED WITH A TON OF GOODIES. WATCH OUT!



# Rupchanda-The Daily Star Super Chef 2016 finally crowns winner



(From L to R) First Runner's Up Hasina Irfan, Judges Shaheda Yesmin, Tariq Anam, Tazammul Huq Tareq, Joya Ahsan and 2016's Super Chef Rafia Ahammad and Naziba Basher.

PHOTO: MD. KAWSAR

OSAMA RAHMAN

The entire night was electric. The feel of a big title fight hung heavily in the air, thickening it along with the present tension. Rafia Ahammad and Hasina Irfan, stood on opposite sides, savouring the moment that was about to come. Superstar Joya Ahsan appeared as guest judge, along with the show's main judges, Tariq Anam, Tazammul Huq Tareq and Shaheda Yesmin, all who were household names by now. As the show's director, Wahidul Islam Shuvrow and Head of Marketing and Sales of BEOL Shoeb Md. Asaduzzaman gave the green light, the grand stage of Rupchanda-The Daily Star Super Chef 2016, came alive with the lights. The participants then joined each other and stood before the judges, their hands intertwined in one final show of camaraderie, something that has made this competition so much more interesting. They both wanted to win but neither would give themselves any advantage. It was about to be fight of equals.

The surprising fact was that both the top two were initially written off as underdogs. It would be the Leicester City story, regardless of who would go on to become the eventual champion. "Rafia's dream was solely to gain a chef coat but I want her to win," Rafia's best friend, who came to support her but left before the finale, said. Hasina's mother was also present to cheer her on. Tonight, they could use all the support they would get. This was, after all, the Grand Finale of Rupchanda-The Daily Star Super Chef 2016, the biggest culinary competition in the country and the crown jewel of any chef's hat. "Hasina and Rafia; you two are fortunate to have gotten this platform to prove yourself. The experience that you have gained is an achievement by itself. The finals for now are a formality

and while I cannot predict what the future holds for you, I do hope you move ahead with this experience and do great things," Joya Ahsan, the mega star reminded the participants. It was then, go time.

As witnessed by millions around the country, the participants prepared a four course dinner for all four of the judges, including an entrée, an appetiser, a main course and a dessert. To ensure that the only factor to determine the Super Chef would be the quality, presentation and taste of the food, the judges each tasted the dishes individually. Then they voted for their favourite dish from each course, writing the name of their pick and putting it in the ballot box. When the votes were being counted, the anticipation was palpable. Everyone, from the participants to the judges to the stagehand, everyone waited with baited breaths. How close would the contest get? Would there be a winner by a landslide or would it even be too close to call? As Tariq Anam counted the votes, they reached the point where the votes remained at 7-7. Then it became 8-7. Then it was 9-7. A sudden cheer went out in the background. Someone had learned lip reading it seemed, because the judges were yet to announce who the winner was. Then Tariq Anam, after a short monologue, began, "And this year's Rupchanda-The Daily Star Super Chef is," followed by a dramatic pause and then the winner's name, "Rafia Ahammad". This is when the entire set became unglued. 2016's Super Chef was here and it was none other than Rafia, the quiet girl from the backwater town of Khulna. An epic was written by the fates last night. Rafia instantly broke down, looking up to the sky in a moment captured by the camera. She had just scripted

"Dreams of my Father" for herself and this was her homage to the man who had consistently inspired her despite his lack of physical presence and their separation by the light-years dividing our mortal world from the divine. This was the single moment when Rafia's elation was not muted. She had won. The champion then turned towards Hasina and held her in the tightest embrace, symbolic of her unwillingness to let this moment go. This was what the months were all about. This was what the challenge was all about. The Super Chef crown and the 10 lakh taka prize money would mean a much more stable future for Rafia, who was rumoured to have had a struggle that would break almost any ordinary man. But Rafia was far from ordinary.

As the prizes were distributed, the camera turned towards Hasina Irfan, the smile still plastered across her face, albeit being a little less bright than usual. "Rafia did well and she deserved it. I tried my best too and I am proud to have made it this far. Now I shall return to my son who was been waiting for me all this time. This experience was my reward and I won't ever forget it," Hasina said. Rafia, on the other hand, was at a loss for words. As Rafia took the podium to accept her stage, amidst all the congratulatory voices, her eyes wandered into the crowd, looking for someone no one else could see. She was here now. She was Rupchanda-The Daily Star Super Chef 2016 and after a hard-knock life, the fates had finally smiled. The biggest competition had finally come to an end and all anyone could think about was the next edition to come. For now, this is all, from Rupchanda-The Daily Star's Super Chef kitchen.