



Illegal structures on both sides of the Chaktai canal continue to mushroom due to indifference of the authorities concerned. The rampant encroachment has narrowed down the water body, escalating residents' waterlogging woes. The photo was taken yesterday in Chaktai-Khatunganj area of the port city.

PHOTO:
ANURUP KANTI DAS

East West Univ teacher 'kills herself

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



A female lecturer of East West University allegedly committed suicide at

her Aftabnagar house in the capital early yesterday.

Rabeya Kulsum Pinky, 26, was hanging from a ceiling fan in her room when her brother Md Sharif with some others broke open the door locked from inside, said police quoting Sharif.

She was rushed to United Hospital in Gulshan where doctors declared her dead.

Police are looking into the matter to ascertain whether it was a case of suicide.

The body was sent to Dhaka Medical College morgue for an autopsy. Morgue sources said marks of blade cuts on both of her hands were found.

An unnatural death case was filed.

Lifeline turns to sorrow

Ctg Chaktai canal under grabbers' grip

MINHAJ UDDIN, Ctg

Once regarded as the lifeline for trade and commerce at the traditional business centres of Khatunganj and Chaktai areas in Chittagong, Chaktai canal has shrunk alarmingly due to encroachment over the years.

Under the clutches of influential encroachers, Chaktai -- backbone of the sewerage system of the port city -- has now emerged as "sorrow of Chittagong", causing severe waterlogging not only in the rainy season but also during high tide in the Karnaphuli river as it cannot hold enough water and overflows its banks.

The nearly seven-kilometre canal, stretching from Bahaddarhat to Chaktai, which once helped navigating large ships laden with goods, has been clogged and choked by garbage, in addition to rampant encroachment.

"I returned from Dhaka Tuesday night but got stuck for two hours as the area was under knee-deep water," said Jamal Hossain, a resident of Patharghata. "If the situation continues, soon we will need boats for travelling."

Jamal, also managing director of two dry fish trading companies in Chaktai area, said last month one of his warehouses got flooded and he had to dump fish worth Tk 20 lakh.

"You do not need rain for waterlogging in Chaktai-Khatunganj area. The high tide brings more water and floods the area even on a sunny day," said Politan Barua, a Patharghata resident.

Around 80,000 people of Patharghata (ward-34) and Baxirhat (ward-44) were being affected, said its councillors.

From April to November, twice in every month (full moon and new moon) residents of the areas suffer as the canal overflows, said Md Ismail, councillor of ward-34.

Hazi Nurul Huq, councillor of ward-35, said his house also got flooded regularly.

Residents and political leaders blamed encroachment as the main reason, which has narrowed down the canal. "The government must take immediate action to evict the occupants," said Md Ismail.

The district administration in 2015 prepared a list of 48 occu-

pants on both sides of the canal as per the Bangladesh Survey (1985-1987).

The Daily Star has recently obtained a copy of the list, which includes individuals, businessmen and even Chittagong City Corporation (CCC). As per the list, the four-storey CCC revenue circle-two building spread over 793 square feet area in Bahaddarhat is on the canal.

CCC Chief Executive Officer Kazi Mohammad Shafiqul Alam said if their building was on the canal they would remove it.

During a recent visit, this correspondent saw scores of house built occupying the canal in Chaktai-Khatunganj area.

If the district administration would have listed the occupiers as per the 1927 Revisional Survey (RS), the number would be higher, said Jamal Uddin, a former councillor of Patharghata and organising secretary of Khatunganj Trade and Industries Association. He demanded immediate eviction of the occupants not only to save the canal but also to reduce the areas' waterlogging crisis.

AL COUNCIL ON SATURDAY, SUNDAY

Dhaka braces for traffic snarl-up

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

On the occasion of the upcoming triennial council of the ruling Awami League on Saturday and Sunday, Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) will divert and restrict traffic movement on different roads of the capital.

Until 8:00am, vehicles will be allowed to go to Shahbagh and Dhaka University (DU) campus through the VIP road from Bijoy Sharani. Afterwards, the road will be restricted until the prime minister reaches Suhrawardy Udyan, where the council will be held.

Vehicles coming from Uttara will not be allowed on Mohakhali flyover and have to go to DU campus through Mohakhali Bus Terminal, Moghbazar, Kakrail and Zero Point, informed DMP Commissioner Asaduzzaman Miah while briefing journalists about the traffic plan yesterday after visiting the venue.

About two hours before the prime minister leaves the event, the road from Matsya Bhaban-Kakrail church to Bijoy Sharani will be restricted. Vehicles will be allowed to go to Mohakhali from Kakrail church through Moghbazar during this time.

RESTRICTED STREETS AFTER 7:00AM

No vehicles will be allowed to approach Manik Miah Avenue, Farmgate, Russel Square and Panthapath. Those heading to the DU campus will have to approach through New Market, Nilkhet, Science Laboratory, Azimpur, Palashi and Jagannath Hall intersection.

Approaching Shahbagh from Kataban will be restricted.

The streets from Doyel Chatter to TSC and Shahbagh to Matsya Bhaban will be restricted while traffic will only be allowed to go from the High Court to Doyel Chatter.

The street in front of the foreign ministry will be restricted on both sides.

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NGOs can't have right to freedom of expression

Claims head of JS body on law Suranjit

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Chief of a parliamentary standing committee has claimed that non-government organisations (NGOs) cannot have the right to freedom of expression as mentioned in the country's constitution.

"Freedom of expression and freedom of thinking are only for citizens. Non-government organisations do not have this right. They do not have the right to criticise parliament or any constitutional body," said Awami League MP Suranjit Sengupta, chief of the parliamentary standing committee on law.

Speaking at a press conference at the Jatiya Sangsad Media Centre

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IN REMEMBRANCE



It is with great sadness that we share that Alfaz Hossain (Dilip) beloved Father, Father-in-law, Grandfather and Husband to the late Kathleen Hossain (nee Keogh) passed away aged 77 in Gulshan on 17th October 2016, after a valiant battle with cancer.

Born in 1939 in North Bengal, Dilip was raised in Rangpur, where he was an active sportsman as a student, playing cricket to a competitive level in his youth. He studied at Carmichael College and Dhaka, then Dacca, University, before moving to London to study architecture at North London Polytechnic (now University). Dilip married Kathleen Keogh, who was originally from Dublin, in London in 1965. The family, by then including four children, moved to Dhaka in 1978. Dilip had a long and distinguished career as an architect, and served for many years as the Managing Director of the consulting firm Desh Upodesh Ltd.

He is survived by his four children, Rebecca, Paul, Naomi and Nadia; their spouses, Christopher, Francesca, Samer and Zabeer and his eight beloved grandchildren, Jordan, Joshua, Charlotte, Amber, Tomás, Sophia, Diego and Aidan.

We invite friends, relatives and well-wishers to join us on Friday October 21st at House No. 6, Road 104, Gulshan, Baad Asr for his Doa Mahfil to pray for his departed soul and remember his life.



As part of its ongoing eviction drive against illegal establishments, Rajuk demolishes a portion of a restaurant yesterday, which was set up in the parking space in a building in the capital's Dhanmondi-27.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

AL COUNCILS

Noman raises questions over massive spending

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Vice-Chairman Abdullah Al Noman yesterday strongly criticised the massive spending for the Awami League's national council and raised questions over the source of the money.

"Crores of take are being spent... While walking past the gate (before the council venue in Suhrawardy Udyan), people are saying that public and ill-gotten money is being spent... We do not know the sources," said Noman at a programme at Dhaka Reporters Unity in memory of BNP Standing Committee Member ASM Hannan Shah who passed away on September 27.

Road crashes kill 6

CITY DESK

Six people were killed and another was injured in road accidents in five districts yesterday and on Tuesday.

In Jessore, two youths were killed and another was injured in a head-on collision between a pick-up van and a human-hauler carrying them in Bagura Beltala area of Sarsha upazila on Tuesday night.

The deceased were driver of human-hauler Alamgir Hossain, 22, and its passenger Mamun Rahman, 25. Both hailed from Bakura village.

In Chittagong, Sumon Nath, 28, of Notunhat area in Raozan upazila was killed as a bus hit his motorcycle on Chittagong-Rangamati road in Jalanihat area of the upazila yesterday.

He was the sales representative of RFL.

In Dinajpur Sadar, Sirajul Islam, 45, of Basherhat area was killed as a bus hit his motorcycle in the area on Tuesday night. Sirajul was a physics teacher of Pakerhat Degree College in Khansama upazila.

In Savar, Jubaida Begum, 50, of Madaripur was killed as a covered-van hit her from behind on Abdullahpur-Baipail highway in Shimultola of Ashulia on Tuesday night. She came to visit her son at Jamgora.

In Chapainawabganj Sadar, Shafiqul Islam, 50, of Dariapur area was killed as a truck ran him over on Chapainawabganj-Rajshahi highway in the area yesterday morning.

International Healthcare Services at Local Price in Bangladesh

2016 Best International HOSPITAL Award

Apollo Hospitals Dhaka
Dhaka, Bangladesh

2016 Best International Hospital Award Bangladesh

On October 1, 2016 Apollo Hospitals Dhaka was awarded the 2016 Best International Hospital Award for Bangladesh. During 2016, the International Healthcare Commission conducted performance review ratings of all private hospitals in Bangladesh. Apollo Hospitals Dhaka scored the highest points of any private hospital in Bangladesh.

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