

Land management automation project taken: Minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The government has undertaken a new project "Land Management Automation" to facilitate land related service across the country, said Land Minister Shamsur Rahman Sherif yesterday in the parliament.
"The DPP (Development of Project Proforma) has been sent to the planning commission for approval," the minister said in reply to lawmakers' queries.

Meanwhile, the 15th session of the 10th parliament began yesterday with mourning deaths of eminent composer and freedom fighter Lucky Akhand and people in the terrorist attack in front of the British parliament.

At the onset of the session, speaker Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury moved a condolence motion in the House with separate obituary references on former state minister Nurul Huda, former lawmakers AA Maruf Saqlain, Dharendra Nath Saha, Kazi Mohammad Anwar Hossain, KM Khaleque, Ehsan Ali Khan and Ahsan Ahmed who passed away after prorogation of the 14th session of Jatiya Sangsad.

Journalist Razu

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case on April 29. The company, according to the case statement, alleged that Razu and two others, including the news portal's editor, published two news reports against its mobile division for tarnishing the image of the company.
Razu was arrested on Sunday and he was produced before a court yesterday after the one-day remand.
Leaders of different journalist forums condemned the arrest made under Section 57 of ICT Act, and demanded his immediate release and abolition of the section.

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BNP activists of two factions attack each other foiling a meeting of the party's Chittagong North District unit on the Nasimon Bhaban premises in the port city yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Set priority on playgrounds

FROM PAGE 3
normal rain during the monsoon, said Nazimuddin.

DAP Project Director Ashrafur Islam said the objective of the public discussion is to ensure participation of the locals, identify scope of area-wise land use and seek localised solutions to problems faced in implementing civic amenities.
The residents and public representatives of the area during the meeting supported Ashrafur's proposition of redevelopment of properties through pooling of small land plots for improved civic facilities.

Anwar Parvez, councillor of Ward 28; Jahangir Alam Babul, councillor of Ward 29; Hasan Pillu, councillor of Ward 30; and Yunus Suman, general secretary of Awami League Chawkbazar unit; also spoke among others.

RAJUK NOW BLAMES DAP
After a vast area -- belonging to natural floodplains and wetlands in and around the city -- has been filled up for developing housing projects by numerous property developers, the Rajuk now says it was done under a flawed DAP.
"There are a plenty of flaws in the existing

DAP, but that too was prepared by a group of experts," said Ziaul Hasan, Rajuk board member for planning, present at the meeting.
"Any area found submerged under rain-water in satellite images was earmarked as flood plains and wetlands," he said.

Asked why Rajuk endorsed and published such a "flawed DAP" in official gazette and whether the plea of such "mistakes" was the rationale for altering land use of floodplains and wetlands on a wide scale by the property developers, Hasan said, "I have to find out more [about it]... I assumed office only less than half a year ago."

A seven-member ministerial committee on the recommendations of Rajuk altered over 80 percent of conservable floodplains and wetlands for housing projects that constituted one-third of the 1,528-square-kilometre DAP area, according to an estimate by experts.

With the current DAP expiring its 15-year term in 2015 without having implemented most of its key recommendations on conservation of wetlands and flood flow zones, Rajuk embarked on adopting yet another 20-year detailed plan in March 2015 for the period 2016-2035.

JOURNO SHIMUL MURDER SC stays bail of Nasiruddin

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday stayed for eight weeks a High Court order that granted bail to suspended local Awami League leader KM Nasiruddin in Sirajganj's journalist Abdul Hakim Shimul murder case.

Shimul, 40, Sirajganj district correspondent of Bangla daily Samakal, was hit by stray bullets during a fight between two groups of ruling Awami League activists in Shahzadpur on February 2. He succumbed to his injuries while being taken to Dhaka for better treatment the next day.

Yesterday, chamber judge of the Appellate Division passed the stay order following a petition filed by the government.

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Institutions weakened by all

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talked about media freedom in Bangladesh, especially its challenges and the ways out.

Dr Iftekharuzzaman, executive director of TIB, said the government should consider free media as an indispensable institution of democracy.

Media controls -- direct or indirect -- may be considered beneficial in the short term, but history is replete with examples where it is bound to be counterproductive in the long run, he said.

"Restrictions on free media lead to three-fold negative impact: it forces media to navigate challenges and survive by taking resource to self-censorship; it promotes further

politicisation, cooption, sycophancy and thereby tensions within the media; and it erodes media integrity and hence undermines people's constitutional right to freedom of speech and opinion."

He also said, "To overcome challenges, the government must refrain from imposing any direct or indirect restrictions on the media. But the media also has to face the mirror and ensure that as an institution of democracy they are also as well governed as they demand other institutions to be, for which they must conduct their profession and business ethically and with integrity."

Columnist Afsan

Chowdhury said the character of media and the owner of the media are not the same, rather conflicting. He said it is not possible to do journalism without any fear right now in Bangladesh.

Media personality Muhammad Jahangir said political polarisation that prevails among journalists is damaging their unity.

He said if democracy is not established in the country, it would not be possible to ensure freedom of the media.

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DISTRIBUTION OF DIVIDEND FOR THE YEAR 2016

This is for information to the honorable shareholders of RAK Ceramics (Bangladesh) Limited that the stock dividend (bonus shares) @ 5% for the year 2016 has been credited to the respective BO account of the concerned shareholders on April 05, 2017 and cash dividend @ 20% for the year 2016 has been transferred to the respective bank account (as per the CDDBL information) of the concerned shareholders through Bangladesh Electronic Fund Transfer Network (BEFTN) by April 26, 2017.

Mentionable, that the NRB shareholders who did not yet receive the dividend warrants are requested to collect their dividend warrants 2016 from the Share Department of the Head Office of the Company either personally with BO setup copy or through their duly authorized representatives. A person authorized to collect dividend warrants and dividend notice on behalf of a shareholder, shall bring duly signed authorization letter/copy of power of attorney or any other legal documents to prove the identity to collect the same.

Date: Dhaka, May 02, 2017

For RAK Ceramics (Bangladesh) Limited
Sd/-
(Muhammad Shahidul Islam FCS)
Company Secretary

NEWS IN brief

Two-day book fair begins on Friday

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Retired Army Officers' Welfare Association (Raowa) is going to organise a two-day book fair at its office in the capital's Mohakhali from Friday.
The fair will remain open from 10:00am to 8:00pm where nine books written by Raowa members are expected to be unveiled by Prof Emeritus Serajul Islam Chowdhury.

Eleven personalities awarded

DU CORRESPONDENT
Online news portal bbarta24.net yesterday awarded 11 personalities for their contributions to their respective fields.
The awardees are, Janakantha Editor Toab Khan (journalism), Hasan Imam and Laila Hasan (art and culture), Dipu Moni (politics), MA Goni (Liberation War organiser abroad), Mahbub Ara Gini (unstoppable woman), State Minister for ICT Junaid Ahmed Palok (ICT), Iftikhar-uz Zaman (economics), Mabia Akter Simanta (sports), Managing Director of JMI Group Abdur Razaq (successful entrepreneur) and Sania Binte Mahtab (research).
Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu was present as

Perform with professionalism at peace keeping missions, IGP asks cops

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Inspector General of Police (IGP) AKM Shahidul Hoque yesterday urged the police officials who are going to serve in peace keeping missions to work with utmost devotion, sincerity and professionalism.
At Rajarbagh police lines the police chief said angladesh police have already been praised by the world. "Now, you

প্লট বিক্রয়

বসুন্ধরা বারিধারা আবাসিক এলাকায় কে-ব্লকে, দক্ষিণ, পূর্ব ও পশ্চিম লেকভিউ কর্ণার ২৭ কাঠা রেজিস্ট্রেশন, মিউটেশন ও বাউন্ডারী করা প্লট বিক্রয়। সরাসরি মালিক। যোগাযোগ: ০১৭১১-৫৪৬৬৮৭, E-mail: info.fariduddin77@gmail.com

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CREDIT RATING REPORT

ONE Bank LIMITED

Corporate HQ
2/F HRC Bhaban, 46 Kawran Bazar C.A., Dhaka-1215

ONE Bank Limited has been rated by the Emerging Credit Rating Limited (ECRL) on the basis of Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2016. The summary of the rating is presented below:

Date of Declaration	Valid Till	Long Term Rating	Short Term Rating
March 10, 2017	March 09, 2018	AA	ST-2
March 10, 2016	March 09, 2017	AA	ST-2
March 31, 2015	March 30, 2016	AA-	ST-2

Long Term AA means:
Commercial Banks rated AA have very strong capacity to meet their financial commitments and is generally in a position to withstand adverse developments in the economy, business and other external conditions. These institutions typically possess a good track record and have no readily apparent weaknesses.

Short Term ST-2 means:
Commercial Banks rated in this category are considered to have strong capacity to meet its financial commitments in a timely manner. However, it is somewhat susceptible to adverse development in the economy, business and other external condition.

By order of the Board,
John Sarkar
John Sarkar
ADMD & Company Secretary