



The picture shows how the public park of DCC, a vast section of the road and its sidewalk at Jatrabari intersection below Mayor Hanif Floyder have turned into a disorderly business zone. Occupation of the park is depriving local children of their leisure activities on the one hand, and on the other, the road occupation is resulting in added travel time for passengers to and from Chittagong, Sylhet, Comilla and surrounding districts. Although the roads at the entry and exit point of Dhaka have been widened to a great extent with a large amount of public money, people travelling below the flyover still spend nearly two to three hours to pass the intersection.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Historic 6-point Day today

BSS, Dhaka
The historic 6-point Day, marking the demand for autonomy for former East Pakistan, now Bangladesh, will be observed today across the country in a befitting manner.

To mark the day, different socio-political organisations including Awami League, its associate bodies and like-minded socio-cultural organisations have drawn up elaborate programmes.

In separate messages, President Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina paid their tributes.

In his message, President Hamid said, "The six-point demand was a milestone in the country's history..."

The prime minister, in her message, vowed to uphold the democratic rights of the people being imbued with the spirit of democratic movements and struggles including the historic June 7 in 1966.

On this day in 1966, Awami League (AL) under the leadership of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman called for a day-long hartal throughout East Pakistan, depressing the demand for autonomy to end the exploitation, deprivation, subjugation and tyranny of the then central government of Pakistan on the people.

People took to the streets during the dawn-to-dusk hartal throughout the province and law enforcers opened fire on them at different places, killing at least 10 people, including labour leader Monu Mia, Shaquie and Shamsul Haq, which intensified the movement further.

As a sequel to it, came the historic mass upsurge in 1969, and subsequently, the Liberation War in 1971.

Bangladesh upset at US pullout from climate deal

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT
Bangladesh has expressed disappointment at the United States' decision of withdrawing from the 2015 Paris climate accord.

"It would be unfortunate to lose a leading partner like the United States in the global journey to secure a green and safe planet for us and our future generations," said a statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs yesterday.

Bangladesh, being one of the most climate vulnerable countries with a current population of 160 million, would continue its efforts along with its partners around the globe to mobilise domestic and international resources to address the grave threats posed by climate change, it added.

US President Donald Trump announced on June 1 that the United States would leave the pact, a UN agreement signed by 195

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

Lawyer brings back accused after HC rebuke

He had released him earlier by misleading police

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday kept senior lawyer Advocate Abdul Baset Majumder waiting in the courtroom for around half an hour and rebuked him for misleading police to release his client, an accused in an attempted murder case, from custody.

The court allowed Baset, vice chairman of the Bangladesh Bar Council, to leave the courtroom after the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) president and secretary offered an apology on his behalf and after the accused was brought back.

The accused, Abdul Kuddus Kosai, was handed over to police after the HC rejected his bail petition.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5

Tk 160cr project to enhance waste management capacity

UNB, Dhaka
The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (Nec) yesterday approved the "Procurement of Equipment for Solid Waste Management" project with an outlay of Tk 160.12 crore, aiming to enhance the waste management capacity in Dhaka north, Dhaka south and Chittagong City Corporation areas.

The approval came from an Nec meeting held at the NEC conference room in the capital with Nec Chairperson and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair. Briefing reporters after the meeting, Planning Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal said 11 projects were approved involving an estimated cost of Tk 3,723.06 crore.

"Of the total project cost, Tk 3,603.67 crore will come from the national exchequer, Tk 22.50 crore from the organisation's own fund, while the rest Tk 96.89 crore from project assistance," he said.

Of the approved projects, eight are new while three are revised ones.

The minister said the Local Government Division will implement the "Procurement of Equipment for Solid Waste

Management" project by December 2018. Of the total project cost, Tk 63.24 crore will come from the state coffers, while the rest Tk 96.89 crore from project assistance.

The project also aims to reduce the emission of carbon in Dhaka and Chittagong, and develop sanitary situation throughout, establishing sustainable waste management.

The main project operations include procurement of some 11 small dump trucks, 11 four wheel-drive dump trucks, 13 large dump trucks, 24 small compactors, 34 large compactors, procurement of 37 container carriers, procurement of 285 container boxes, establishment of spare parts storage for Dhaka South City Corporation, construction of a four-storey multipurpose building for training and vehicle maintenance workshop, constructing necessary infrastructures for DSCG for installing various machineries and drains, construction of spare parts storage for CCG, construction of a four-storey multipurpose building for training and vehicle maintenance workshop in Chittagong alongside constructing necessary

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

'Celebrating Life' contest opens



Abrar Anwar, chief executive officer of Standard Chartered Bank (SCB) in Bangladesh, announcing the launch of "Celebrating Life 2017" contest at a press conference in the capital yesterday. Bitopi Das Chowdhury, SCB's country head of corporate affairs, is on his right.

PHOTO: STAR

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

With a call to capture the essence of diversity in Bangladesh, in their lyrics, photographs and films, The Daily Star-Standard Chartered Bank (SCB) announced the launching of "Celebrating Life 2017" contest yesterday welcoming submissions from all over the country.

The theme for this year's competition is "Celebrating Diversity in Bangladesh".

Unveiling the theme, organisers invited entries from amateur photographers, lyricists and filmmakers. This year marks the 10th anniversary of the contest.

"We are inspired seeing the expansion of 'Celebrating Life'. It is our pride to bring the hidden talents from the remotest parts of the country into a platform," said Abrar A Anwar, chief executive officer of SCB, at a press conference at Hotel Westin in the capital.

He also said diversity is everywhere in Bangladesh and beauty lies in that diversity. "If we can move forward with this diversity, it will be a fantastic community."

Mahfuz Anam, editor and publisher of The Daily Star, said, "A nation develops not only through its economic progress and political development, but also through flourishing of its culture. Bangladesh has a rich and multifaceted cultural heritage. We have chosen three categories — lyrics, photography and films to

promote our cultures."

"Celebrating Life" contestants are allowed complete freedom to explore any subject matter of their choice within the theme of the competition. However, theme or subject of the film is open to a filmmaker's imagination.

Eligibility and details for participation at national level are available at www.celebratinglife.bd.com. All entries must reach The Daily Star by August 31 and no entries will be accepted later.

The event was moderated by Bitopi Das Chowdhury, SCB's country head of corporate affairs.

Started off in 2008, Celebrating Life awarded participants for photography, lyrics, and films. It also honoured renowned persons with Lifetime Achievement Awards for their contributions in the aforementioned categories, said Rafi Hossain, festival director, Celebrating Life.

The Lifetime Achievement Awards was introduced in 2010, paying due respect to those who have been involved in filmmaking/television production, photography, music and lyrics writing for decades.

The Lifetime Achievement Awards 2016 went to Ferdousi Majumdar (film), Reza Latif (cinematography) and Alam Khan (music).

The previous Lifetime Achievement Awards were given to Mustafa Manwar for film, Rashid Talukder for music.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

2018: the year of the people

Says Khaleeda

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleeda Zia yesterday said the year 2018 will be the year of the people as there would be no repression and repressors in the country.

She made the remark apparently pointing to the upcoming general elections.

"We believe the year 2018 will be the year of the country's people, and the repressors and coercion will be removed from the country," she said while addressing an iftar party hosted by Liberal Democratic Party at Ladies Club in the capital.

Criticising the government, she said, "The law and order is gradually deteriorating while the prices of essentials are continuously shooting up."

The BNP chief alleged that the government promised of giving rice at Tk 10 per kg but... rice is being sold at market at Tk 50-60 per kg. Prices of gas, electricity and water have been increased again and again, she further alleged.

Regarding the proposed budget, Khaleeda said, "The government has put its hands in the pockets of people. If anyone has Tk 1 lakh in a bank then the government will cut Tk 800. Even after that the finance minister said those who have Tk 1 lakh in banks are rich."

Khaleeda alleged that 2016 was the year of bank robbery. They even looted the money of Bangladesh Bank, she alleged.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina exchanges pleasantries with judges, diplomats and high civil and military officials before an iftar hosted by her at Gono Bhavan yesterday.

PHOTO: PID

NO END TO BLOODSPILL ON ROAD

Five killed, three hurt in accidents

CITY DESK

Five people were killed and three others injured in road accidents in four districts yesterday.

In Faridpur, a police constable was killed as a pickup van ran him over while he was with a police patrol team on Dhaka-Bairal highway in Chumuri area of Bhanga upazila.

The deceased Motalab Chakladar, 45, of Khatta Madhavpur village in Madaripur was killed as a bus hit her while she was crossing the road. She died on the spot.

Officer-in-Charge of the station Soyad Abdullah.

In Joypurhat, a schoolteacher was killed as his motorcycle collided head-on with a tractor on Hili-Joypurhat road in Bhimpur village under Panchbibbi upazila.

work. In Panchagarh, a schoolboy was killed as a tractor coming from the opposite direction hit his motorbike on Panchagarh-Tentulia highway in Shalbahan village under Tentulia upazila.

The deceased is Al-Amin, 14, son of Ibrahim of Lohachaki village. He was a class-VIII student of Majhipara Demukhi High School.

In Buraburi village of the upazila, Tahiran Nesa, 78, of Mandulipara village was killed as a bus hit her while she was crossing the road. She died on the spot.

In Gazipur city, a youth was killed and three people were injured as a pickup-van hit a stationary truck on Dhaka-Mymensingh highway in MC Bazar area, reports UNB.

The deceased is Rafiqul Islam, 28, of Mymensingh. He was the passenger of the pickup.

Besides, the pickup driver, helper and another person sustained injuries in the accident.



Right after taking a dip in a pond to cool itself from the summer heat, a common myna shakes off water from its body. The photo was taken on the Dhaka University campus yesterday afternoon.

PHOTO: FERDZ AHMED