

KCC mayor vows to free up canals

DIPANKAR ROY, Khulna

Khulna City Corporation (KCC) Mayor Talukder Abdul Khaleque yesterday vowed to free all 22 canals of the city from encroachment, and urged all stakeholders to help the upcoming eviction drive, after mapping and demarcation of the canals.

He said due to unabated encroachment of canals, water-logging has become a problem of Khulna city. Air and water pollution are causing public nuisance due to stagnant water in the canals.

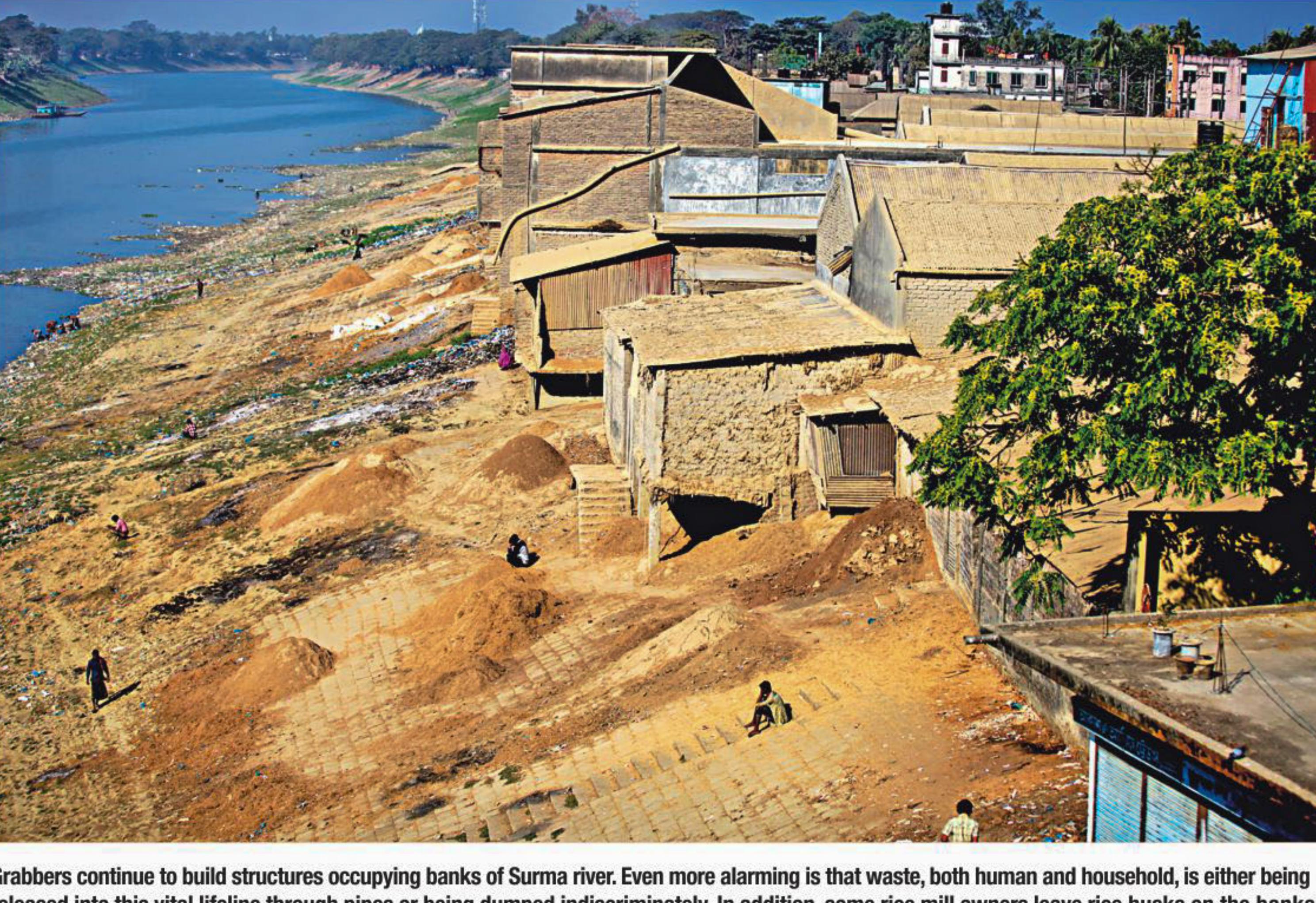
He made the remarks after a visit to the 22 canals of KCC area, accompanied by high officials of KCC and journalists.

"City dwellers want to get relief from this public hazard, and I am assuring them to resume the eviction drive," the mayor said. "After taking charge of KCC, I took a project of Tk 843 crore to solve water-logging and free these canals," he told reporters.

Of the canals in the city, Nirala canal, Mohirbari canal, Labonchara canal, Mandar canal, Khudier canal, Ketrokhali canal, Nobinagar canal, Gallamari North canal, Batkamari canal, Aronghata canal, Deana Chowdhury canal, Bastuhara canal, Taltola canal, Kaderer canal, Chorichora canal, Kholabaria canal, Narkelbaria canal, Harintana canal, Motiakhalia canal, Mohirbari canal and Mathabhangia canal have already been grabbed.

The Daily Star published a report on the state of the canals in the city on January 25, titled "Khulna canals in peril".

Md Helal Uddin, Deputy Commissioner of Khulna; Ehsan Shah, deputy commissioner of Khulna Metropolitan Police; Khandoker Azim Ahmad, zonal settlement officer; Md Nazmul Haq, chief engineer of Water Development Board; SM Habib, president of Khulna Press Club; and Abdur Rahman, chief revenue officer of KCC; were present during the mayor's visit.



Grabbers continue to build structures occupying banks of Surma river. Even more alarming is that waste, both human and household, is either being released into this vital lifeline through pipes or being dumped indiscriminately. In addition, some rice mill owners leave rice husks on the banks, which eventually make their way into the river. The photo was taken from Kazirbazar bridge in Sylhet city on Saturday. PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

40pc brick kilns of Barishal division illegal

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barishal

Around 40 percent of brick kilns in all six districts of Barishal division are being operated illegally, with the Department of Environment (DoE) being able to fine only four of those in the last three months.

During drives, owners of those brick kilns were fined Tk 3.15 lakh, DoE sources said.

The total number of brick kilns in the division is 376. Of them, 227 did not take any licence from the department, they said.

There might be more illegal ones beyond the official record, said DoE Director in Barishal division Abdul Halim.

Among the illegal ones, over 100 are drum-based, said DoE sources.

Abdul Halim said the number of such illegal brick kilns is increasing in Barishal division.

According to the Brick Kiln Amendment Rule 2001 and the Environment

NUMBER OF BRICK KILNS IN BARISHAL DIVISION

Districts	Authorised	Unauthorised
Barishal	53	51
Pirojpur	21	19
Patuakhali	42	32
Jhalakathi	20	16
Bhola	53	17
Barguna	38	14

SOURCE: DOE

Conservation Act 1995 (amended in 2010), brick kilns should not be established within three kilometres of any dwelling or crop field.

Drums or old chimneys cannot be used in the brick kilns, and the chimneys have to be at least 120 feet high.

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Road accidents kill three

STAR REPORT

Three people were killed and two others injured in road accidents in three districts yesterday, according to reports from our correspondents.

In Faridpur, a rickshaw-puller was killed and another injured as a truck hit the rickshaw from behind in the town's New Bus Stand area.

Sahidul Matabbar, 23, from Mahajipur village in the district, died on the spot. Injured Forhad, 38, from the same area, was taken to Faridpur Medical College Hospital, said police.

In Dinajpur, a man was killed as a tractor hit him in the town's Suihari area. Mohammad Ali Zinnah, 52, from Mohammadpur village, was a rice trader.

In Panchagarh, a motorcyclist was killed and his co-rider injured after their bike hit a parked tractor on Panchagarh-Bangladesh highway in Sadar upazila.

The deceased is Mominul Islam, 20, from Manikpur Hazipara village in Boda upazila.

Yusuf Ali, 14, was undergoing treatment at Panchagarh Sadar Hospital.

Orthopaedic surgeon Dr Kader was transferred to RmMC in July

Absent for six months ACC exposes errant physician after call on hotline

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A physician, who is an assistant professor at government-run Rangamati Medical College (RmMC), was found to have been drawing his salaries despite being absent from his workplace for the past six months.

Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) yesterday exposed the incident after receiving a tip-off on its hotline 106, according to a press release.

A three-member team of ACC, led by its Director Shafiqur Rahman Bhuiyan, found the anomalies of the physician, Dr Abdul Kader, after conducting an enforcement drive at the health directorate.

Orthopaedic surgeon Dr Kader was transferred to RmMC in July

last year, but he submitted an application with the health ministry, seeking cancellation of the transfer order.

Although Dr Kader did not ascertain whether his application was accepted or not, he refrained from working at the medical college and continued drawing salaries and allowances every month, the release added.

While the ACC drive was ongoing, Prof Nasima Sultana, additional director general of the health directorate, in a phone call to Dr Kader sought explanation of his actions.

ACC Director General Mohammad Munir Chowdhury, the chief coordinator of ACC's ongoing enforcement drives, said Dr Kader's conduct and actions definitely classify as corruption.

SSC QUESTION PAPER MIX-UP 7 more Ctg centre secretaries relieved

CU CORRESPONDENT

Chattogram Education Board authorities yesterday relieved seven more examination centre secretaries of their duties for distributing wrong question papers on the first day of SSC examination.

They were discharging duties at Ukhia Girls High School, Pekua Girls' High School, Ukhia Palong Ideal High School and Cox's Bazar Government Girls High School in Cox's Bazar, and Municipal Model High School, Dr Khastagir Girls' High School, and Garibe Newaz High School centres in Chattogram, said exam controller Mahbub Hasan.

Earlier on Sunday, the exam centre secretary of Potenga High School was relieved from his duties on the same charge.

Mahbub Hasan further said during investigation it was found that the secretaries were at fault.

On the first day of the SSC examination, question papers of 2018 in lieu of 2019 were distributed among examinees at eight exam centres in Chattogram division.

Army chief receives King Abdul Aziz award

BSS, Dhaka

Chief of Army Staff General Aziz Ahmed has been conferred with special honorary award "King Abdul Aziz Medal of Excellence" by the Saudi Arabian government in Riyadh.

Chief of General Staff of Royal Saudi Armed Forces Fayiad Bin Ha'med Al-Rowaily conferred the award to the Bangladesh army chief, said an ISPR release yesterday.

High officials of Royal Saudi armed forces, officers of Bangladesh Embassy in Riyadh and entourage of the army chief were present on the occasion.

General Aziz Ahmed is on a seven-day official visit to Saudi Arabia.

The two sides held discussions on bilateral defence cooperation. In this regard, a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on defence between the two countries will be inked on February 14.

Wife remanded over death of Ctg doctor

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A Chattogram court yesterday put Tanzila Haque Chowdhury Mitu, wife of physician Mustafa Mursheed Akash who allegedly died by suicide on January 31, on a three-day remand in a case filed for provoking suicide.

The court of Metropolitan Magistrate Al Imran passed the remand order, after hearing a seven-day remand prayer.

Assistant Commissioner (AC) (Prosecution) Kazi Shahabuddin Ahmed of Chattogram Metropolitan Police (CMP) said on Saturday, police produced Mitu before the court with a seven-day remand prayer in the case filed with Chandgaon police station. The court fixed yesterday for remand hearing and sent the woman to jail.

After the hearing yesterday morning, the court placed Mitu on remand, said the AC.

Akash, 32, a doctor of Chittagong Medical College Hospital, died allegedly by suicide at his residence in Chandgaon Residential Area in the port city on January 31. Before suicide, the physician posted a 'suicide note' on his Facebook timeline.

Following the incident, Counter Terrorism (CT) unit of CMP arrested Mitu from her relative's house in Nandankanan area on Thursday night.

On Friday, Akash's mother Jobeda Khanam filed a case, accusing Mitu and five others for instigating the suicide.



A woman tends to flowers at a nursery in Pirojpur's Swarupkathi upazila. With Pahela Falgun, the first day of spring; Ekushey February, the International Mother Language Day; and Valentine's Day falling within the month of February, flower growers in the district are passing busy days. Inset, flowers being taken to markets on boats. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

Chittagong Development Authority

Ministry of Housing and Public Works

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Memo No-PD/Smrity24/Est-1

Date: 04/02/2019

e-Tender Notice (OTM)

e-Tender is invited in e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) by Project Director, Chittagong Development Authority, Chittagong for the procurement of

Tender ID No.	Package No.	Tender name	Online tender notice publication date and time	Online tender closing date and time
281992	PD/Smrity24/Est-1	Construction of Smrity 24 and related works	05/02/2019 10.30am	20/02/2019 13.00

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.

The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP helpdesk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Mohammad Hasan

Project Director

Construction of Smrity 24

Chittagong Development Authority

Their deaths are not connected

Rajshahi DC, civil surgeon visit Bohroil village after 6 die in 8 days

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

The civil surgeon of Rajshahi along with a medical team visited Bohroil village in the district yesterday to assess the situation and calm locals after six villagers died in last eight days for unrelated reasons.

"There is nothing to panic," said Dr Sanjib Kumar Saha.

A seven-member team of the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), including experts from the Institute of Epidemiology, Diseases Control and Research (IEDCR) and an anthropologist accompanied him.

"People became nervous by the recurring deaths," said the civil surgeon.

Rajshahi deputy commissioner, who was accompanying the doctors, said the medical team would visit all 300 houses in the village under Tanore upazila to check villagers' health.

Meanwhile, seven villagers were admitted to the upazila health complex with palpitation-related issues after the sixth villager -- Imam Ali Babu, a 35-year-old quack -- died on Sunday.

In the early hours of January 27, three persons -- a new-born, Noorjahan Begum Nuri, 80, a beggar, and Jonab Ali, 50, a farmer, passed away.

The three-day-old boy, born at seven months, fell sick and died, said his father Mohammad Rubel.

Nuri was bedridden for nearly a year with broken leg, said neighbours. Jonab Ali's wife said her husband went to bed as usual and died while asleep.

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Khulna Development Authority

Khulna

www.kda.gov.bd

Memo No: 25.41.0000.006.00.005.19

Date:

e-Tender Notice

Invitation for Tender (Goods)

E-Tender will be invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for procurement of

Tender ID No.	Package No.	Description	Online tender notice publication date	Online tender closing date
27688	egp-goods-5 002	Supply of CPU, UPS, Printer, Scanner, Speaker and other computer accessories	05-Feb-2019 10:00am	20-Feb-2019 1:00pm