WHEN DEVELOPMENT WORK MAKES DAILY LIFE DIFFICULT

| HELEMUL ALAM |



There is no room for commuters or vehicles, as construction materials

have taken up the entire breadth of Dilu Road in Moghbazar. Residents fear

DHAKA

With bricks, stone chips, sacks of sand and other equipment taking up almost the entire breadth, the road looks more like a dumping zone for construction materials.

Due to an ongoing development work, Dilu Road in Moghbazar remains practically unusable to locals and inaccessible to vehicles. This alley is home to over a hundred families, who have been bearing the brunt of the situation for over a month.

Every day, Subrin Laila has to carry her six-year-old daughter to school.

"Before, I would get a rickshaw to take her to school," she told this correspondent recently. "As the work started, it has become very difficult to walk on the road with construction materials and debris everywhere. You can imagine what happens during rain."

the rainy season will make matters worse. In mid March, Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC)

started the work to set up storm-water drainage line to reduce the area's waterlogging problem. With rainy season

approaching, residents are afraid that their woes would escalate if the situation persists. "A few days back, I stepped

in a pothole in the uneven road and hurt my leg," said Eusha, a student of AG Church School in the area. "I usually go to school with my two younger cousins... now it has become quite a challenge to walk on the street," she added.

Jamal Hossain, a resident of the area, said in the last 15 days he could not use his car or motorbike to commute to work. "Setting up sewerage line is necessary, no doubt, but must it take over a month? Are we just

supposed to sit at home while this drags on?" He said, "The time to begin

the work was not appropriate as it has already started raining. Utility companies should do their works during winter." In less than six months, the road was dug up three times, he claimed, adding that this happened due to lack of coordination.

Meanwhile, many vendors in the area said they are incurring

Sumon Hawladar, a staff member of Narmin General Store, said since the work started, sales have dropped significantly as many customers are avoiding shops on the road. "Also, no vehicles can enter

Dilu Road. I have to carry goods to our store all the way from Bangla Motor-Moghbazar road."

Like Sumon, other vendors

are worried whether the road would be repaired soon as the

AMRAN HOSSAIN

month of Ramadan begins. Contacted, DNCC Subassistant Engineer (Zone-3) Ezazul Islam said though a decision to dig this road in dry season was taken during the late mayor Annisul Huq's tenure, they could not implement it after his untimely death as DNCC did not have an elected mayor then.

"Also, the work got delayed due to some tender-related procedural problems. We will try to complete all diggingrelated development work before rainy season from next year," he said.

"The work on this road will be completed by next month," Ezazul said.

Do you have a Dhaka Vibe story to share? Email us your reports or ideas to dhakavibeds@gmail.com

'Be careful not to glorify terrorists'

Top DMP officials urges media

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Top police officials yesterday urged the media to be careful in their coverage of terrorism, so that terrorists are not even inadvertently portrayed as heroes.

"Terrorists' motive is to intimidate people and force their wrong ideologies upon them by acts of terror. If the media broadcasts those heinous acts, the terrorists may become heroes to certain people," said Asaduzzaman Mia, commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP). He was speaking at a workshop on

"Reporting on terrorism" at the Cirdap auditorium, organised by Crime Reporters' Association of Bangladesh (CRAB) and DMP's Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC) unit.

"Reporters should focus more on portraying how harmful such acts are for the society," he added.

"Media should avoid language that glorifies terrorists, and rather focus on the ordeal of victims of the terror attack and their families," Monirul Islam, chief of but should also keep the interest of the CTTC unit, said.

Asaduzzaman said imposing censorship on journalists by ministry of information or home is illogical, but added that journalists among others, also spoke.

should practice restraint while covering terrorist incidents or anti-terror drives.

The Daily Star | 3

Citing examples from different countries, the DMP commissioner said live coverage during an anti-terror operation can sometimes help terrorists make their plans afresh.

"One or two incidents take place and come to light. But 98 percent of (terror) incidents are not taking place due to our continuous intelligence-based drives and frequent identification and arrest of the terrorists," he added.

There have been no major terror attacks since the Holey Artisan massacre in 2016 as a result of dedicated and skilled officers, the commissioner said. He lauded the Bangladeshi media for raising public awareness against militancy after the attack that left 20 hostages and two police officers

Zayadul Ahsan Pintu, editor of private TV channel DBC News, said journalists have to inform people what's happening country in mind, especially when covering terrorism.

CRAB General Secretary Dipu Sarwar,

DHAKA TODAY

PUBLIC HEARING Nirapod Pani: Wasar Dabi o Jonogoner Obhiggota Venue: National Press Club Time: 11am

FILM SCREENING

129th WFMP on Remembering Bruno Ganz Organiser: DU Film Society Venue: Goethe-Institut Bangladesh Time: 11am

ART EXHIBITION Tactile

Time: 11am

Venue: Galleri Kaya

REPORT LAUNCHING Sexual Harassment in RMG Sector: Way Forward

Venue: National Press Club Time: 10am

WORKSHOP **US University Basic Application**

Process Organiser: Education USA Venue: EMK Center Time: 11am



HEALTH HACK

Cold Remedies: A cold is a viral ailment that has no

direct cure, but you can

relieve the symptoms. 1. A cup of tea, preferably with honey and ginger, can soothe the throat and open

up nasal passages.

2. Get plenty of rest. During a cold, the immune system works hard to fight off viral invasion, requireing a lot of energy.

3. When sleeping, use an extra pillow to elevate your head. This helps relieve nasal congestion.

4. There are medicines for practically all symptoms. However, don't take antibiotics as the cold is not a bacterial illness.

Noted citizens concerned over death threats to 3 dignitaries

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Twenty-five eminent personalities in a joint statement yesterday expressed their concern over and condemned the death threats against three renowned citizens of the country.

In the statement, they demanded taking immediate legal actions against those who threatened the three.

A militant group published a magazine titled "Lone Wolf" in March this year, where it narrated preparations to kill three prominent individuals -- rights activist Sultana Kamal, historian Muntassir Mamoon and war crimes researcher Shahriar Kabir.

The statement said it is necessary to resist fundamentalist forces and terrorist groups.

It will not be possible to uphold the spirit of Liberation War if we do not take a stand against the crimes of the fundamentalists and the group that misuses religion, the statement

This group is misguiding general people in the name of religion, giving wrong interpretation, and is involved in conspiring to make the country unstable, the statement further said.

The signatories of the statement include former adviser to the caretaker government, Rasheda K Chowdhury; lawmaker Aroma Dutta; writer and academic Dr Muhammad Zafar Iqbal; author Selina Hossain; Coordinator of Nijera Kori, Khushi Kabir; SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

Sponsored TV news, headlines illegal: HC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Declaring the sponsoring of TV news and headlines illegal, the High Court yesterday directed that broadcast of news and headlines sponsored by different organisations cannot continue after August 31 this year.

Delivering a verdict on a writ petition, the court observed that sponsored TV news and headlines may not be unbiased, and therefore, people's right to information will be denied.

Sponsoring news and headlines is against the spirit of the constitution's articles 31 and 39, Barrister Masud Ahmed Sayeed, lawyer for the writ petitioner, told The Daily Star.

He also said TV channels can continue running sponsored news and headlines until August 31, following the HC verdict. Details of the observations and grounds

on which the HC delivered the verdict could not be known immediately as the full text was not released yesterday.

The HC bench of Justice Zubayer Rahman Chowdhury and Justice Sashanka Shekhar Sarkar came up with the verdict

following a writ petition filed by MA Matin,

a retired teacher of Government Laboratory High School, challenging the legality of sponsored news and headlines on TV.

Matin filed the writ petition with the HC in October 2011, saying that most TV channels never run news that go against the interests of organisations or persons paying them to air advertisements. People's right to information is thus denied, the petition added.

Following the petition, HC bench of Justice AHM Shamsuddin Choudhury Manik and Justice Md Nuruzzaman had issued a rule asking the authorities concerned to explain why broadcasting news and headlines -- sponsored by different organisations -- on TV channels should not be declared illegal.

Secretaries to the ministries of information, law and home, inspector general of police, director general of Bangladesh Television and chief executives of private TV channels had been made respondents to the rule.

BTV, Independent TV and Channel 24 placed replies to the HC, saying that they do not run sponsored news and headlines.

Menstrual Hygiene

Facilities still inadequate at schools

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Although Bangladesh has made significant progress in women's empowerment, a large segment of girl students in the country still remain absent from classes during menstruation due to inadequate hygiene facilities at their educational institutions, a study has found.

As a result of that, students often lag behind in academic activities, while

GIRLS SKIPPING SCHOOL DURING MENSTRUATION

	ALWAYS	SOMETIMES	NEVE
Madrasa students	14.49%	57.97%	27.549
School students	12.56%	25.13%	62.319

Bangladesh Nari Progati Sangha collected the data by interviewing 536 girls of 28 schools and 11 madrasas in seven districts between September 2018 and February 2019.

Biman's management to be

overhauled in two months

many of them are deprived of stipend because of the low attendance.

Besides, those who manage to be regular amid the lack of facilities face hurdles in maintaining their menstrual hygiene, and many of them eventually suffer from illness, according to the study.

Bangladesh Nari Progati Sangha (BNPS) -- an organisation working for women's rights -- conducted the study between September 2018 and February 2019, surveying 28 schools and 11 madrasas in seven districts including Dhaka.

It interviewed 924 students [536

girls and 388 boys] as part of the study, findings of which were unveiled at a roundtable held at The Daily Star

the madrasas and only one-third of the schools had sanitary napkins for female students. Although most of the institutions

The survey found that none of

had separate toilets for girls, the number of toilets was inadequate. In addition, none of the institutions had sufficient arrangement for soap at the restrooms, it found.

The study found more than 14 and SEE PAGE 4 COL 3



Speakers at the roundtable.

PHOTO: STAR

FR Tower Fire

Land owner gets bail

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday granted bail to SMHI Faruque, the land owner of FR Tower in Banani, in connection with Staff Correspondent a case filed over the fire at the high-rise building that killed 26 people on March 28.

Metropolitan Magistrate Md Saiduzzaman Sharif passed the order after the lawyer of Faruque, 65, moved a petition seeking bail in the case. His bail plea was granted considering his age, ailments

including cancer, and custody, confirmed General Recording Officer (GRO) SI Sheikh Rakibul Hassan. Earlier on April 11, another accused Tasvir Ul Islam,

one of the two owners of FR Tower, was granted bail considering his health condition and age. On April 8, another Dhaka court had rejected bail

petitions of two owners of FR Tower and sent them to jail in the case on expiry of their seven-day remand. Earlier on March 31, SMHI Faruque, the land owner of

FR Tower, and Tasvir were placed on seven-day remand each. SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

Biman Bangladesh Airlines' management will be overhauled within two months, and the national carrier will no longer remain a losing concern, Civil Aviation and Tourism Ministry Secretary Mohibul Haque said yesterday.

"Biman, which had incurred loss in the previous years, will become a profitable venture in the next year. The national airline has already made profit of Tk 143 crore in April through ticket sales, compared to the previous year. This has been possible due to recent measures by the ministry," he said at a discussion in the capital.

Aviation and Tourism Journalists' Forum of Bangladesh (ATJFB) organised the programme titled "Pre-budget

Civil aviation secretary says discussion on civil aviation and tourism" is launching the second edition of at Jatiya Press Club.

Speaking at the programme, State Minister for Civil Aviation M Mahbub Ali said his ministry is sincerely trying to bring about positive changes in Biman.

Referring to irregularities and corruption in Biman's ticket sales, the state minister said due to the ministry's actions and vigilance, Biman flights do not travel half-loaded now. He regretted that most of the previous

projects initiated by his ministry remain in a sorry state. Mahbub also said the government has taken various measures to improve service

at all airports in the country. Sharing his recent experience of visiting SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

CITY DESK

Abul Mansur Ahmad Smriti Parishad an essay contest in honour of the renowned politician, journalist and litterateur, said a press release.

Mansur Ahmad

Three separate competitions will be held on the topics: Depiction of religious bigotry and social classes in Ahmad's literary work; role

of journalism and modernism, and the creation of a progressive mindset in the context of Ahmad's journalism career; and Ahmad's thoughts on the state and today's Bangladesh.

Essay contest on Abul

The best submissions will be awarded Tk 10,000, while the second prize is Tk 5,000. The third prize is a set of books by Abul Mansur Ahmad.

Anyone between the ages of 20-35 can participate by sending an essay in Bangla of maximum 2,500 words, based on original research, within August 17.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

Centre yesterday.