

Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) yesterday reclaimed a total of 30,000 square feet areas demolishing around 200 illegal establishments, including some semi-concrete structures, sheds and shops at the capital's Gabtoli bus terminal and its adjoining areas.

A DNCC mobile court led by Executive Magistrate Sajid Anwar carried out the drive between 11am and 2:30pm to reclaim its grabbed space.

The reclaimed space was opened for public movement, said DNCC sources.

Earlier on August 28, DNCC Mayor Md Atiqul Islam visited the Gabtoli bus terminal along with local MP Aslamul Haque when they expressed their dissatisfaction with the illegal establishments in and around the terminal. The eviction drive followed instructions issued that day.

FORGERY AT CTG CUSTOMS CIID arrests man 'who accessed NBR server'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Customs Intelligence and Investigation Directorate (CIID) yesterday detained a man allegedly involved in releasing 22 consignments from Chattogram port through user IDs of two former officials of Chattogram Customs House (CCH).

Jahidul Islam, owner of an IT firm, was held from Chattogram customs area, said Shahidul Islam, director general of CIID.

"Jahidul is one of the prime accused who accessed the customs server using IDs of two former customs officials. Being an expert in technology, Jahidul helped seven clearing and forwarding (C&F) agents to log into National Board of Revenue's (NBR) Automated System for Customs Data (ASYCUDA) server 3,777 times on several occasions, and managed to get the 22 consignments freed without physical examination."

"The consignments were brought to Bangladesh between May and December last year by 14 importers and facilitated by seven C&F agents. They were taken out of the port between September and December last year," Shahidul told The Daily Star.

Customs sources said The CIID had information that the import consignments contained falsely declared items, so it had requested the CCH to release the goods only after thorough physical examinations.

The Central Intelligence Cell of NBR had also made the same request to the customs house. A case was filed in January with Ramna Police Station regarding the release of the consignments. CIID arrested Mizanur Rahman, owner of M/S MR Trade International and Chakladar Service from the capital's Kakrail area right after filing of the case.

Banker killed in Khulna road crash

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

A banker was killed when a truck hit his motorcycle on Khulna-Satkhira highway in Nijkhama area of Khulna yesterday.

The deceased -- identified as Abdus Samad, 37, from Sharashkathi Trimohini village in Jashore -- was an employee of Brac Bank's Gopalganj Branch.

Samad was going to his workplace from Keshabpur by motorcycle, Rotneshwar Mondol -- sub-inspector of Lobonchhora Police Station -- quoted locals as saying.

On the way, the Dumuria upazila-bound sand-laden truck hit him near Pally Bidyut Office, killing him instantly, said the SI.

Police seized the truck but the driver managed to flee. The body was sent to Khulna Medical College morgue for autopsy.



A banana-laden pickup truck almost topples over as a rear wheel falls into a pothole on the Sonadanga bypass road in Khulna city. Locals say the road has not been repaired in years, and becomes risky for vehicles, particularly during monsoon. The photo was taken on Saturday.

PHOTO: DIPANKAR ROY

22-day ban on catching, selling Hilsa from Oct 9

UNB, Dhaka

The government will impose a 22-day ban on catching, selling, storing and transporting Hilsa from October 9 to 31, to ensure safe spawning of the national fish during its peak breeding period.

State Minister for Fisheries and Livestock Md Ashraf Ali Khan Khassru came up with the information while talking to reporters after a meeting at the Secretariat yesterday.

"We'll provide food assistance to fishermen during the period," he said.

Those who will violate the ban will be sentenced to one to two years' imprisonment or fined Tk 5,000 or both, he added.

ATTACK ON BUSINESSMAN Two associates of Ajmeri Osman remanded

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

A Narayanganj court yesterday placed two associates of Ajmeri Osman, who were arrested early Friday in connection with a case filed for extortion and beating up a businessman, on one-day remand each.

The arrestees are Shahadat Hosen Rupu, 32, and Mokhlesur Rahman, 35. The court of Senior Judicial Magistrate Aftabuzzaman passed the order, said Inspector Abdul Hai of Narayanganj court police.

The two were arrested from the office of Ajmeri Osman in the town. Ajmeri is the son of former MP from Narayanganj-5 constituency AKM Nasim Osman and nephew of current MPs Selim Osman (Narayanganj-5) and Shamim Osman (Narayanganj-4).

One Bacchu Miah, a businessman of Amlapara area in the city, on September 5 filed a complaint against Ajmeri and his associates, alleging that they demanded Tk 65,000 from him. As he refused to pay, they assaulted and threatened to kill him, Bacchu alleged.

Following the complaint, law enforcers raided Ajmeri's office and residence on Allama Iqbal Road and made the arrest. Ajmeri was not present at the time.

Later, Bacchu filed the case against four persons including Ajmeri. Of the accused, two have been arrested, while Ajmeri and one Jewel are on the run, said Sazzad Raman, inspector of Special Branch of Narayanganj district police.

Police are continuing drives to arrest them, he said.

Govt creating ground to send Khaleda back to jail: BNP

Party announces programmes on Sep 11, 12 demanding her release

UNB, Dhaka

BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir yesterday alleged that the government is conspiring to send their ailing chairperson Khaleda Zia back to jail from hospital, giving people an impression that she is "now fine".

He also announced a two-day programme demanding release of Khaleda and her proper treatment.

Speaking at a press conference at BNP's Nayapaltan central office, Fakhru said the Bangladesh Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) authorities on Saturday said Khaleda Zia is now fine and she has recovered from her illness. "We think such comments are part of a plot to create a ground for sending her back to jail without providing her treatment."

He alleged that the government is trying to push the BNP chief towards death by keeping her in jail in "false" cases. "Their only motive is to eliminate their main political opponent, depriving her of treatment. It's not acceptable and we strongly denounce and protest such a move."

The BNP leader demanded the government immediately release Khaleda from jail and allow her to receive treatment at a hospital of her choice.

"We would like to clearly tell the government to free our chairperson on bail as she deserves it legally. Otherwise, the current un-elected regime will be held responsible if anything bad happens to Khaleda Zia," Fakhru said.

Khaleda was sent to jail as she was convicted in Zia Orphanage Trust graft case on February 8, last year. She has been receiving treatment at the BSMMU since April this year.

Fakhru claimed that their chairperson's health condition is deteriorating gradually as her relatives who met her recently said she is very unwell and cannot move on her own. "That's why we've been talking about granting her bail, ensuring her legal right."

Responding to a question, he said BNP has no right to seek parole for Khaleda. "Only she [Khaleda] can seek parole, but she still did not do that. She has said she's not in favour of taking

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

Worker dies in Khulna wall collapse

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

A construction worker died after a wall collapsed on him in Khulna city's Newsprint Mill area yesterday.

The deceased -- Imran Hossain, son of Monir Hossain from the city's Khalishpur area -- was a worker of Northwestern Power Plant, said police.

The accident happened around 1:30pm on the Newsprint Mill premises while Imran was working for a project of Northwestern, Sabirul Alam, officer-in-charge of Khalishpur Police Station, quoted his coworkers as saying.

He was sent to Khulna Medical College Hospital where the doctors declared him dead.

Int'l Literacy Day observed nationwide

BSS, Dhaka

International Literacy Day was observed across the country yesterday, under the theme "Literacy and Multilingualism".

To mark the day, a colourful procession was brought out in Manikganj town, organised by the district administration and Bureau of Informal Education. A discussion was also held at the Freedom Fighters' Memorial in the town.

In Meherpur, a procession was brought out and a discussion was held in the district town. The discussion was held at the conference room of the deputy commissioner.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Md Ebadat Hossain presided over the event, attended by Deputy Commissioner Md Ataul Goni, among others. Associate Prof Abdullah Al Amin of Meherpur Government College presented the keynote paper at the discussion.

The day was also observed in



Barishal district administration and the primary and mass education ministry jointly organised a rally yesterday marking International Literacy Day. The photo was taken from Sadar road in the city.

Kushtia, where a procession from the Collectorate Building paraded different streets in the town. Superintendent of Police SM Tanvir Arafat and Sadar Upazila Chairman Ataur Rahman Ata participated in the event.

In Nilphamari, a rally and

discussion were organised by the district administration and Bureau of Informal Education.

In Khulna, a discussion, marking the day, was held at the conference room of the deputy commissioner. DC Iqbal Hossain took part in it as chief guest. In the morning, a procession was brought out from the city's Shaheed Hadis Park.

The day was also observed in Narail and Bogura.

International Literacy Day is celebrated worldwide, marking the 52nd anniversary of the World Congress of Ministers of Education on the Eradication of Illiteracy, held in Tehran, Iran in 1965.

Following the Tehran recommendation, Unesco proclaimed September 8th the International Literacy Day at the 14th session of Unesco's general conference on October 26, 1966 to remind the international community of the importance of literacy for individuals, communities and societies, and the need for intensified efforts towards more literate societies.

'UNPLANNED DEVELOPMENT' AT JU Teachers observe work abstention

JU CORRESPONDENT

A section of Jahangirnagar University (JU) teachers yesterday observed work abstention for three hours, protesting alleged corruption of the authorities and unplanned development work on campus.

Around 50 teachers under the banner of "Jahangirnagar Against Corruption" gathered on campus around 11:30am and brought out a procession.

It started from Arts Faculty building and ended on the premises of the old administrative building where they held a rally.

Speakers at the rally demanded

relocating the three male students' dormitories -- which are planned to be constructed near Rabindranath Hall, and a judicial inquiry into corruption and tender snatching.

At the rally, Prof Anu Muhammad of Economics department said, "A big budget project also creates a scope for big problems."

Hence, this mega project has created the possibility of prosperity, but it has also become a matter of concern, he added.

"If the alleged irregularities are left unsolved, this project will be a disaster for the university," commented Anu Muhammad. He urged university chancellor

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

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LOCAL TENDER NOTICE

Tender ref.: EDCL/PUR/Microbus/LT/2019/293 Dated: 08/09/2019

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from the Authorized dealers/importer/suppliers for supply of 01 No. Reconditioned TOYOTA Microbus for EDCL, Bogura on urgent basis:

Name of Vehicle	Earnest Money	Cost of Tender Schedule
01. Microbus (Reconditioned) --- 01 No. Brand : TOYOTA. (Details as per Tender Schedule).	Tk. 2.5% of quoted amount	Tk. 1,250.00/set (Non refundable)

Tender schedule will be sold from the Accounts Department of Essential Drugs Company Limited, Dhaka on payment as stated above during office hours on all working days (except Friday, Saturday and Govt. Holidays). No tender schedule will be sold on the opening date of the tender.

The tender will be accompanied by an amount of Earnest Money as mentioned above in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order/Bank Guarantee from any Schedule Bank of Bangladesh in favour of "Essential Drugs Co. Ltd." without which the tender will be considered as non-responsive.

The tenderers may drop their offer along with detailed information (as per tender schedule) to the tender Box kept at the Purchase Department, EDCL, Dhaka office till 12.00 Noon on 22/09/2019 which will be opened on 22/09/2019 at 12.30 PM in presence of the tenderers/their representatives (if any).

EDCL authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

General Manager
Procurement
For : Managing Director

Brac launches disabled-friendly features on website

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Brac yesterday launched some new features on its official website (http://www.brac.net) to help persons with disabilities -- particularly who are visually impaired -- to access the site easily.

The features -- variable font sizes, highlights and underlined links, changing appearance to high-contrast colours and navigation through voice command -- can be used by tapping or clicking the wheelchair symbol on the top left corner of the website.

A launching ceremony was held on the occasion at Brac Centre in the capital, where KM Abdus Salam, director general of NGO Affairs Bureau, was present as chief guest, said a press release.

Speaking on the occasion, Salam said the use of information and communication technology (ICT) has increased significantly in the last 10 years. Now, it is time to bolster efforts to ensure such services for persons with disabilities, he added.

Asif Saleh, executive director of Brac; Sharmilee Rasool, chief technical adviser of UNDP in Bangladesh; and Md Ismail, additional secretary of social welfare ministry; were also present at the programme among others.

Brac introduced the features -- which took about three months to complete -- with supervision of Vashkar Bhattacharjee, a national consultant of Access to Information (a2i) Programme, the press release said.

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