

Authorities have been working on Sylhet city's Zindabazar-Chowhatta road for a long time to expand the road and improve utilities. But due to the disorderly work, vehicles and pedestrians have to constantly evade the piles of stones, bricks and dirt just lying on the street. The photos were taken yesterday from the city's Zindabazar area.

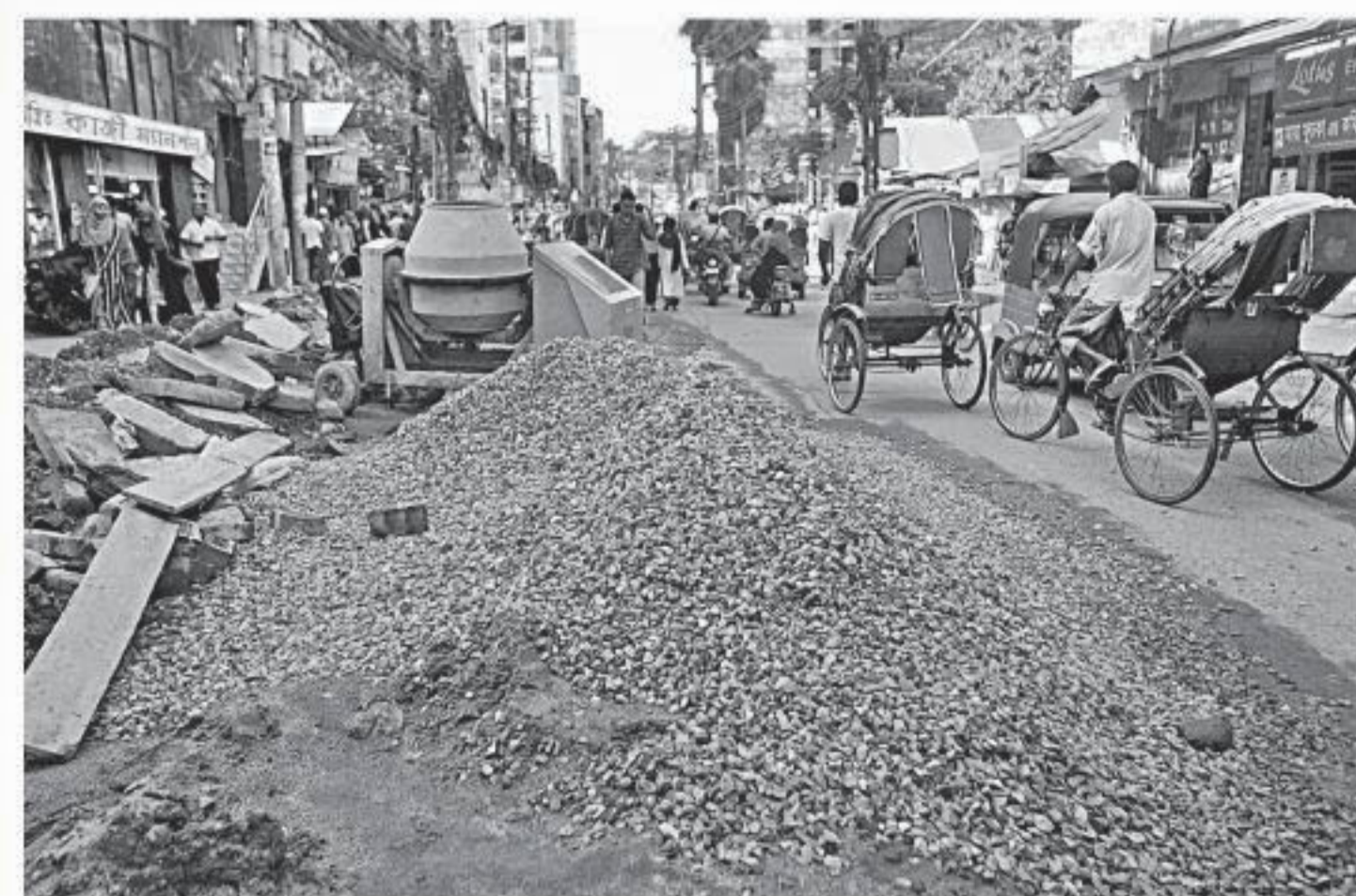


PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

It's due to

FROM PAGE 3

Jubo League Chairman Omar Faruk Chowdhury declared a month-long programme marking the birth anniversary of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. Dhaka south Jubo League celebrated Day of People's Empowerment on September 9 while north Jubo League on September 11, marking the birth anniversary. The occasion will be celebrated on September 16 and 17 in Dhaka and Gazipur districts, and across the country on September 28 -- the premier's birthday. Awami League Joint General Secretary Jahang Kabir Nanak, Economic Samity President Prof Abul Barkat, Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen, Jubo League Formar General Secretary Mirza Azam, Jubo League General Secretary Harun-Rashid and Publicity Secretary Iqbal Mahmud Bablu were present at the event. Dhaka south Jubo League President Ismail Chowdhury Samrat chaired the event.

Battered road makes life

FROM PAGE 3
Sejan said he mostly walks to his school with his friends. His classmate Mohammad Tanveer also expressed his frustration.

Business establishments on the road are facing losses too. Delwar Hossain, owner of a grocery shop, said their earnings went down drastically since the work started. "The authorities are not only taking time to complete the work, they are also using sub-standard materials," he alleged.

Mohammad Javed, owner of a barber shop, said, "We hope they [authorities] will finish the work soon as we are incurring losses."

There is also a health centre on the road, and its patients are the worst sufferers, said locals. Around 10 days back, a rickshaw carrying a man and his sick child, while going there, fell into a pothole and tripped over, they added.

Contacted, Mithun Chandra Shil, executive engineer of DSCC (zone-5), said the works have been going on under a Tk 4 crore project on Distillery road and adjoining areas. It is scheduled to be completed by June next year.

About the condition of Dinanath Sen Road, he said they will take immediate steps to repair it.

Asked about the reason behind starting the work during rainy season, the executive engineer said they began working right after getting the work order.

Regarding allegations of using sub-standard materials, Superintendent Engineer Kazi Mohammad Borhan Uddin said he will look into the matter.

\$40b investment needed

FROM PAGE 5
The first phase of installing nuclear power plants at Rooppur in Pabna with a capacity to generate 2,400MW of electricity is expected to be completed soon.

Meanwhile, the Annual Development Programme (ADP) allocation for power and energy ministry is Tk 27,232 crore for 2019-2020 fiscal.

"We wanted to illuminate each villages and for that, the government is setting up power plants and transmission lines and holding talks with neighbouring countries -- India, Nepal, Bhutan and Myanmar -- to import electricity," Nasrul said. He said the government is planning to invest in Bhutan and Nepal whereas discussions are on with Myanmar, Bhutan and Nepal to import hydropower.

IEDCR team in Sunamganj as 1 dies, 100 fall sick after wedding dinner

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A woman has died and more than 100 people fell sick after having dinner at a wedding ceremony in Sunamganj.

Jali Rani Dev, 35, died at Sunamganj Sadar Hospital on Friday night, two days after she had joined the programme in Sadokpur village of Sadar upazila.

Several hundred people had dinner during the marriage ceremony of daughter of late Pranesh Talukdar at his house on Wednesday.

The attendees started falling sick since Thursday morning, with the primary symptoms being fever, pain, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea.

The incident was confirmed by Sunamganj Civil Surgeon Ashutosh Das who is one of Pranesh Talukdar's relatives.

"I attended the wedding ceremony with my family. My wife has also fallen sick and I have feeling muscle pain since this [Saturday] afternoon," said the civil surgeon.

Some 41 people were undergoing treatment at Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College, 39 at Sunamganj Sadar Hospital

and around 30 at Derai Upazila Health Complex, he said.

"Primarily, we suspect that it was food poisoning and indigestion. But, I asked DGHS, IEDCR and ICDDR,B to investigate the matter," he said.

Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR) has already sent a seven-member probe team, he said.

"The team will start working in Sylhet on Sunday morning and then in Sunamganj. They will also visit Pranesh's house," he said.

Pranesh's brother Jishutosh Das, one of the organisers of the marriage ceremony, told The Daily Star yesterday that meat, dal and fish were among other items in the dinner. No guest complained about the quality of those items, he said.

Jishutosh said the bride's mother Chhanda Rani Talukdar also became sick and was taken to the ICU at Mount Adora Hospital in Sylhet.

In addition, domestic animals who ate the leftovers fell ill, he said, adding that some fishes of a pond where dishes were cleaned also died.

Committed to

FROM PAGE 5

The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity is an international treaty governing the movements of living modified organisms (LMOs), resulting from modern biotechnology, from

one country to another.

The Cartagena Protocol was adopted on January 29, 2000 as a supplementary agreement to the Convention on Biological Diversity and entered into force on September 11, 2003.

UNDP resident envoy presents credentials to foreign minister

BSS, Dhaka

Sudipto Mukerjee, the newly-appointed resident representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Bangladesh, presented his credentials to Foreign Minister Dr A K Abdul Momen yesterday.

Welcoming the new representative, Momen expressed deep appreciation for the long-standing cooperation between Bangladesh and UNDP in the fields of capacity building, inclusive and sustainable policymaking and development governance, dating back to 1972.

The foreign minister hoped that cooperation between Bangladesh and UNDP in the field of implementation of Sustainable Development Goals will continue.

Mukerjee, meanwhile, lauded Bangladesh's remarkable achievements in technology and capacity building. He also assured that UNDP will continue to work with Dhaka for overall development of the country from grassroots to national level.

Sir SF Ahmed's death anniversary observed

CITY DESK

Today is 18th death anniversary of Sir Shahebzada Syed Fariduddin Ahmed, founder of SF Ahmed & Co, chartered accountants and auditors company established in 1958, says a press release.

A milad mahfil was held at his village home of Maizbhandar Darbar Sharif in Chattogram yesterday.

Sir SF Ahmed was born in the famous holy Sufi saint family of Maizbhandar Darbar Sharif Chattogram on February 2, 1934. He was the eldest son of late Hazrat Shah Sufi Moulana Syed Abul Bashar (QS) and grandson of Hazrat Gausul Azam Maizbhandari Shah Sufi Moulana Syed Golamur Rahaman alias Hazrat Baba Bhandari (QS).

As founder of SF Ahmed & Co, Sir SF Ahmed led a pioneering role in developing accounting profession in the then East Pakistan. All throughout his professional career he was known as an outstanding and reputed chartered accountant who had made strides and very significant contribution to the field of accounting profession, management consultancy and computer science.

He spent 15 years (1967-1982) in the USA establishing himself and SF Ahmed & Co as management consultants in New York. Also, during this period he played a very important role in bringing about technology to Bangladesh as he was instrumental in the proper setting up and operation of financial sector reform project in Bangladesh where SF Ahmed & Co was local consultant.

He founded and remained chairman of Aamra Group till the end and successfully guided the business in establishing companies in textile and garment machinery, information technology and others.

Sir SF Ahmed made significant contribution to the development work of Maizbhandar; e.g. beautification and development of the mazars at Maizbhandar Darbar Sharif.

He had always wished to set up a medical centre or clinic that would have a special programme for treatment of those who could not afford necessary medical care.

Currently his family is continuing a number of CSR activities through the SF Ahmed Foundation.



'Rajhangsha'

FROM PAGE 3

Bangladesh (CAAB) and Biman Bangladesh Airlines, led by Biman's board chairman Air Marshal (ret) Muhammad Enamul Bari received the aircraft from the Boeing Company in Seattle yesterday. Four pilots of Biman, led by its Chief of Flight Safety Capt Shoeb Chowdhury operated the new aircraft, with the delegation on board, from Seattle to Dhaka.

Earlier, the first and second Boeing 787-8 Dreamliners -- named Akash Beena and Hangsabalaka respectively -- arrived here in August and December last year, while the third one -- Gaangchil -- arrived in July.

In 2008, Biman signed a US\$2.1 billion agreement with Boeing to purchase 10 new aircrafts. Of those, Boeing has already delivered four 777-300ER's, two 737-800's and three Dreamliners to Biman.

The 271-seater Rajhangsha has been designed to be 20 percent fuel efficient compared to other aircrafts. The airliner has the capacity to fly 16 hours nonstop with an average speed of 650 miles per hour, and is also equipped with on-board Wi-Fi.

It will provide passengers with Wi-Fi services at a height of 43,000 feet, allowing passengers to browse the internet or connect with their friends and family from any place of the world.



State Minister for Fisheries and Livestock Md Ashraf Ali Khan Khasru speaks at the seminar. PHOTO: COLLECTED

Ensure alternate livelihood

FROM PAGE 3

Ashraf Ali Khan Khasru, state minister for fisheries and livestock, said the bans are imposed to increase fish production, which will ultimately benefit the fishermen more than the government.

"Many countries around the world are struggling to produce adequate fish because of unregulated

collection. We don't want to fall into such a situation. So, we have to remain cautious," he said, in his speech as chief guest.

About fishing in Bangladesh's territory by Indian vessels, the state minister said a few Indian fishing boats cross the maritime border sometime, but they have been driven out.

He also said irregularities in distribution of food support to fishermen during the ban has reduced significantly in the recent times.

Abu Sayed Md Rashedul Haque, director general of the Department of Fisheries; and Rezaul Karim Chowdhury, executive director of COAST Trust, also spoke at the programme, among others.

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(Md. Helal Uddin) GM & Division Head
ICT OPERATION DIVISION
HEAD OFFICE, 26 DILKUSHA CIA, MOTIHEEL, DHAKA 1000



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