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DELAYED DHAKA ELEVATED EXPRESSWAY

# Now set to open in 2022 partially

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

After extending the deadline several times, the authorities are now saying that they will open a portion of Dhaka Elevated Expressway to public in December next year.

"I hope that we will be able to open [the expressway] up to Tejgaon Rail Station [from Kawla near airport] next year," Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader said yesterday.

The whole project would be completed by June 2023, the minister said while visiting its construction site in the capital's Banani.

"Italian-Thai [the private partner] faced acute fund crisis in the beginning, which halted progress. There is no fund-related problem now," he added.

In the last 27 months, at least three deadlines were announced for inaugurating a portion of the long-delayed project taken under Public-Private Partnership (PPP) initiative, aiming to ease congestion in the city.

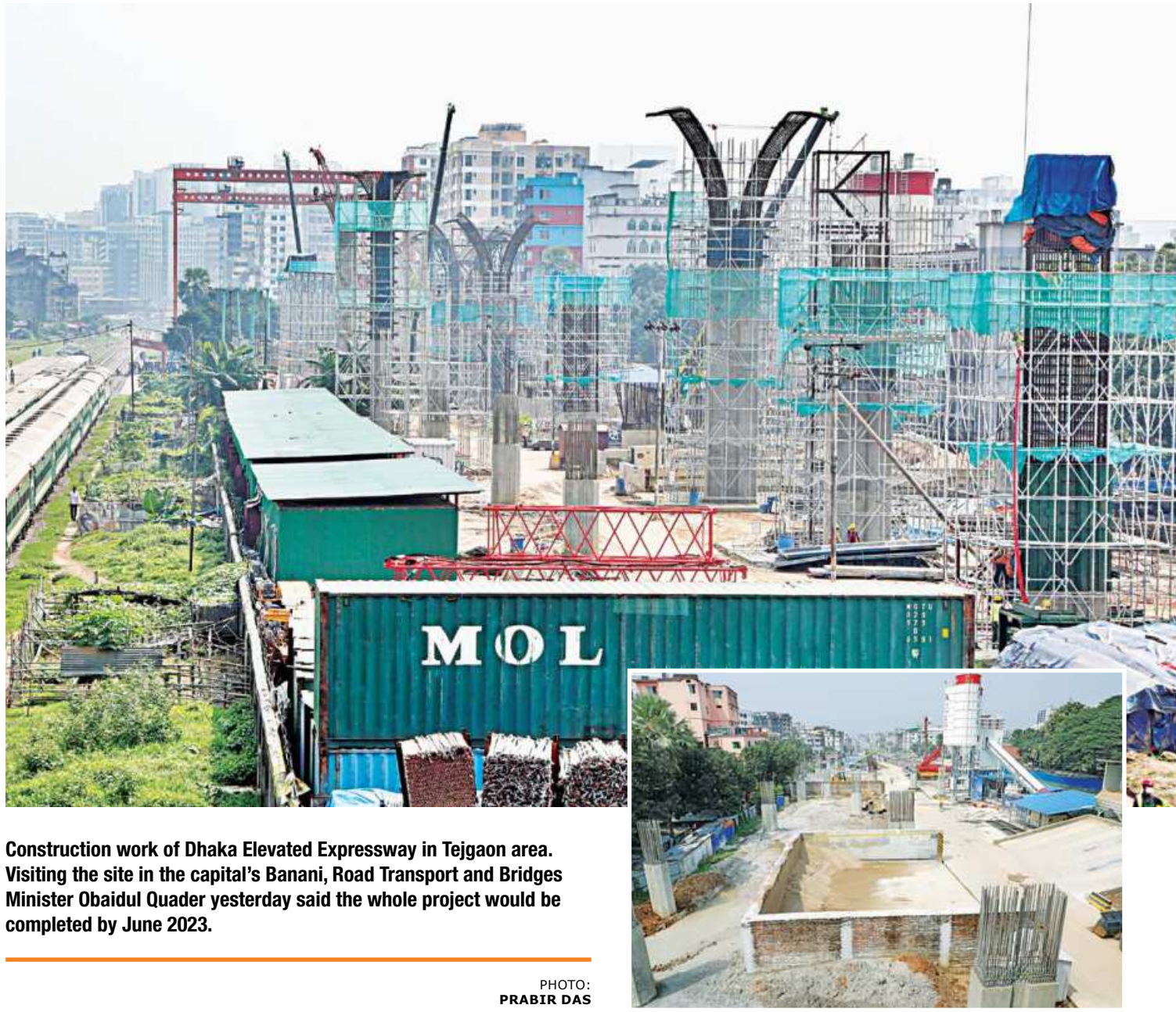
Once completed fully, the 19.73km expressway stretching from Shahjalal International Airport to Kutubkhali on the Dhaka-Chatto gram highway, with 27 ramps of around 27km, is expected to help people cross the Dhaka without facing the huge traffic congestion within the city.

The expressway construction was inaugurated twice, first by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in April 2011 for completion by mid-2014 and once again by Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader in August 2015.

However, the formal construction commencement date is January 1, 2020, the date which mark the beginning of 25 years concession era, including three and a half years construction period.

In January 2011, Bangladesh Bridge Authority (BBA)

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Construction work of Dhaka Elevated Expressway in Tejgaon area. Visiting the site in the capital's Banani, Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader yesterday said the whole project would be completed by June 2023.

PHOTO:  
PRABIR DAS

## Eyewitness describes how Liaqat shot Maj Sinha

OUR CORRESPONDENT,  
Cox's Bazar

Major (retd) Sinha Rashed Khan was shot dead by now suspended police inspector Liaqat Ali, said Mohammad Ali, an eyewitness, yesterday.

He said this while placing his deposition before the Cox's Bazar District and Sessions Judge's Court yesterday.

"Mohammad Ali told the court that he saw a man come out of a car with his hands up. A few moments later, a policeman shot him twice. The man instantly fell to the ground," said a court source.

Ali, however, knew none of them when the incident took place.

Later, he came to know that the shooter was inspector Liaqat Ali and the victim was Major (retd) Sinha.

A resident of Mina Bazar area of Teknaf upazila, Ali is a fish trader at a local kitchen market.

The night of the incident, he went to use the toilet in a nearby mosque and witnessed the killing. Both the kitchen market and the

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## 'We want to clean the force'

Says IGP after various allegations against cops

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police authorities are taking actions against errant members of the force, said Inspector General of Police Benazir Ahmed yesterday.

The force is strictly dealing with every incident, he said at the Police Headquarters yesterday while inaugurating a training programme.

About the recent allegations of extortion, abduction, and other crimes against some police personnel, he said, "If we wanted, we could have taken departmental actions and bandaged the wounds. But ... we want to clean [the force] completely ... Criminal cases are being filed against them."

When a reporter made a reference to BNP lawmaker Harunur Rashid's recent question in parliament about whether the IGP had government approval to be Dhaka Boat Club's president, Benazir said he would not respond to the question.

"The IGP will not react to what he [Harunur] said as a member of parliament ... It is not fair, logical nor legal."

The IGP said over 2.18 lakh police personnel, from constable to additional inspector general, will participate in the week-long training mandatory for every police personnel once a year, he added.

### ROAD TO FREEDOM

THIS DAY IN BANGLADESH LIBERATION WAR HISTORY

## Yahya's 'amnesty' trap

SEPTEMBER 6, 1971

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

**BANGLADESH MISSION BECOMES HIGH COMMISSION**

The Bangladesh mission in Calcutta would henceforth be designated as high commission for the Bangladesh government, a Bangladesh government spokesperson announced today. This was the first high commission of Bangladesh in a foreign country. The Bangladesh mission came into existence in Calcutta on April 18, 1971 following the transfer of allegiance by some of the Pakistan high commission staff to the Bangladesh government. M Hossain Ali, the current chief of the Bangladesh mission, would be re-designated as the high commissioner for Bangladesh. He would present his credentials to the Indian government as soon as India recognises the Bangladesh government.

**'AMNESTY' FAILS TO DECEIVE**

Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra today deplored Pakistan President Yahya Khan's "amnesty" offer and said, "Yahya must be in a desperate plight to resort to such silly trickery."

"The trick looks a great deal more stupid than that 'refugee-reception centre' gimmick where foreign correspondents found only dogs responding to Pakistani hospitality," added the Radio.

"Now either Yahya must be a fool," continued Swadhin Bangla Betar, "or totally mad to expect such a victorious army [Mukti Bahini] to fall for an 'amnesty' trap by a colonial force that not only massacred their loved ones by the thousand but has looted their property and brutally raped their mothers, wives and sisters."

**ON THE WAR FRONT**

Mukti Bahini raided Nalitabari police station in Mymensingh

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## US warns of Afghanistan civil war

Taliban fighters break up women's protest in Kabul

AGENCIES

Taliban fighters advanced deep into the last holdout province of Panjshir yesterday, as the top US general warned Afghanistan faces a wider civil war that would offer fertile ground for a resurgence of terrorism.

Following their lightning fast rout of Afghanistan's army last month -- and celebrations when the last US troops flew out after 20 years of war last Monday -- the Taliban are seeking to crush resistance forces defending the mountainous Panjshir Valley.

The Taliban, who rolled into Kabul three weeks ago at a speed that analysts say likely surprised even the headline Islamists themselves, are yet to finalise their new regime.

But US General Mark Milley questioned whether

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### HOW TO PROTECT YOUR CHILD FROM DENGUE

FARHANA AHMED

Dengue has taken an alarming turn in Bangladesh this year amid the Covid-19 pandemic. Anyone from any age group can be infected by dengue, but children are most vulnerable to this mosquito-borne viral infection because of their comparatively weaker immune systems.

Primarily, dengue causes mild symptoms like fever, body rashes, headache, nausea, pain behind the eyes and in the bones, muscles or joints.

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## New private airline to join the fray

RASHIDUL HASAN

A new airline, Air Astra, is set to take off in January next year, becoming the eleventh private operator to enter the industry in the past 25 years.

Air Astra, which is being funded by a non-resident Bangladeshi from Japan, plans to operate flights on all seven domestic routes, its Chief Executive Officer Imran Asif told The Daily Star yesterday.

"If we can collect at least four aircraft by January, we will be able to operate flights to all the domestic destinations," he said, adding

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**PRAYER TIMING SEPTEMBER 6**

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
4:35	12:45	4:30	6:20	7:45
JAMAAT	5:10	1:15	4:45	6:25

8:15

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



A train drags a microbus for several hundred metres after hitting it at a level crossing in Bhatara of Moulvibazar's Kulaura yesterday. Three people were killed. Locals claimed that the microbus was trying to cross the level crossing in a hurry. Story on page-3.

PHOTO:  
MINTU DESHWARA




## Court defers date for 2 cases against Khaleda

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday deferred to September 30 the hearing on framing of charges against BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia in connection with two cases filed over undermining the national flag and observing a "fake birthday" on August 15.

Dhaka's Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Muhammad

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বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক

ডিপার্টমেন্ট অব কারেন্সী ম্যানেজমেন্ট

(টাকা জাদুঘর শাখা)

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মুজিববর্ষের অঙ্গীকার

দেশী পণ্যের ব্যবহার

### টাকা জাদুঘরের প্রদর্শনী দর্শনাথীদের জন্য পুনরায় উন্মুক্তকরণ সংক্রান্ত বিজ্ঞপ্তি

আগামী সেপ্টেম্বর ০৭, ২০২১ (মঙ্গলবার) হতে যথাযথ স্বাস্থ্যবিধি পরিপালনপূর্বক টাকা জাদুঘর (মিরপুর-২, ঢাকা) এর গ্যালারীসমূহ দর্শনাথীদের পরিদর্শনের জন্য উন্মুক্ত করার সিদ্ধান্ত গৃহীত হয়েছে। এমতাবস্থায়, নিম্নলিখিত সময়সূচি মোতাবেক যথাযথ স্বাস্থ্যবিধি মেনে টাকা জাদুঘর পরিদর্শনের জন্য দর্শনাথীদের অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে:

প্রদর্শনী সময়	অফিস সময়
শনিবার থেকে বুধবার : সকাল ১১টা থেকে বিকেল ৫টা শুক্রবার : বিকেল ৪টা থেকে সন্ধ্যা ৭টা	শনিবার থেকে বুধবার : সকাল ১০টা থেকে বিকাল ৬টা সাপ্তাহিক বন্ধ: বৃহস্পতিবার

ব্যাংকিং ও অর্থিক সেবা পেতে হয়রানির শিকার হলে কিংবা কোনো অভিযোগ থাকলে ১৬২৩৬ নম্বরে ফোন করুন।

ডিসিপি: ৪৮/২০২১-২৬০৮

তারিখ: ০২-০৯-২০২১

স্বাক্ষরিত/-

মো: রজব আলী

মহাব্যবস্থাপক

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